

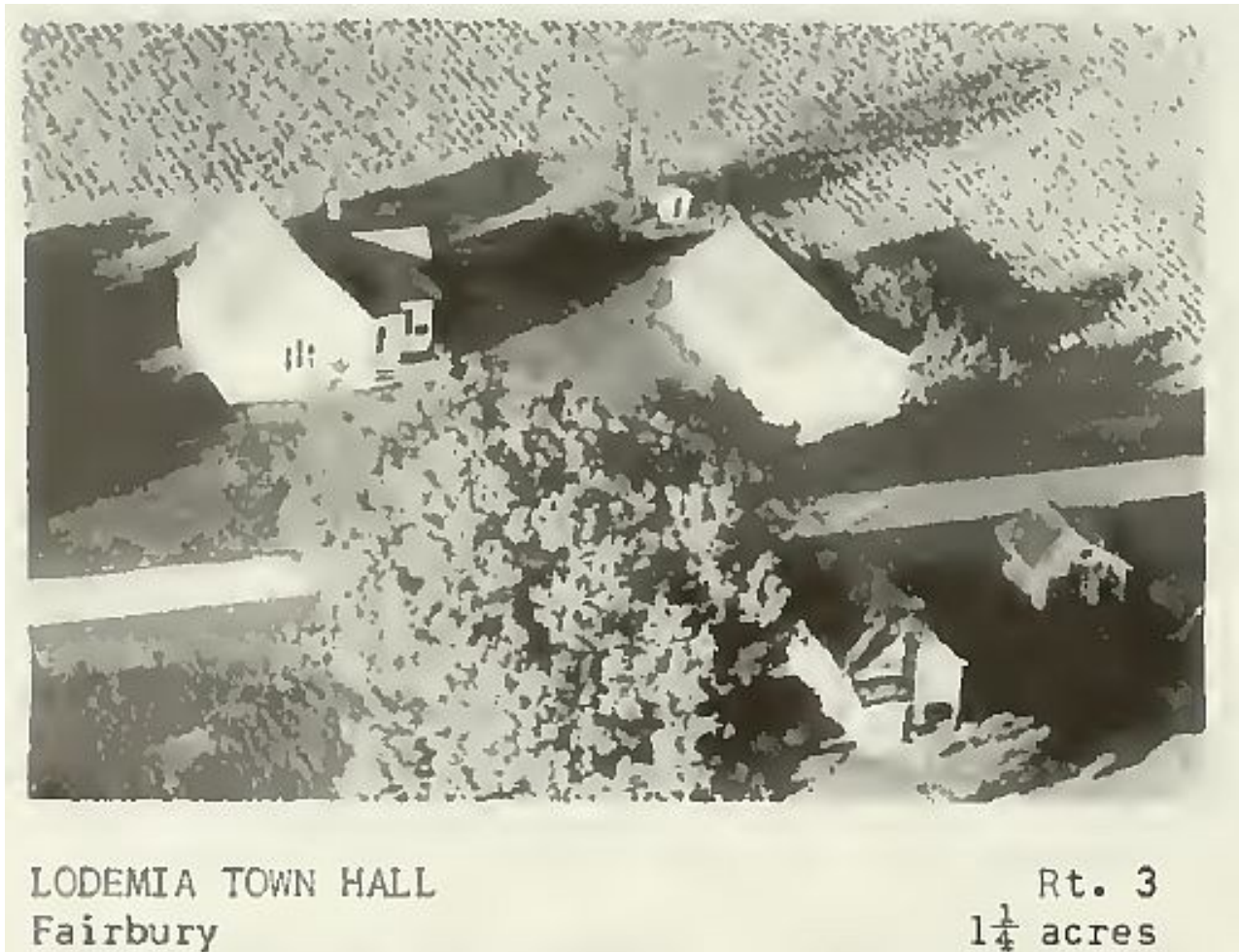
1955 to 1965 Monthly Meeting Minutes for the ABC Avoca Betterment Club in Fairbury, Illinois

Document created by Dale C. Maley – Fairbury Historian

August 8, 2024

Introduction

The Avoca Betterment Club was in existence for 10 years from 1955 to 1965. It was a group of neighbor farm families that met once a month at Lodemia Hall. This building no longer stands. The building was just northwest of the Lodemia Elevator, about 5 miles northwest of Fairbury. The 1955 aerial photo book shows the location of Lodemia and the township hall.





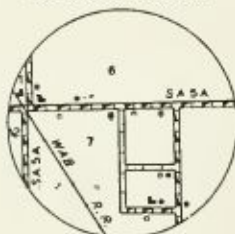
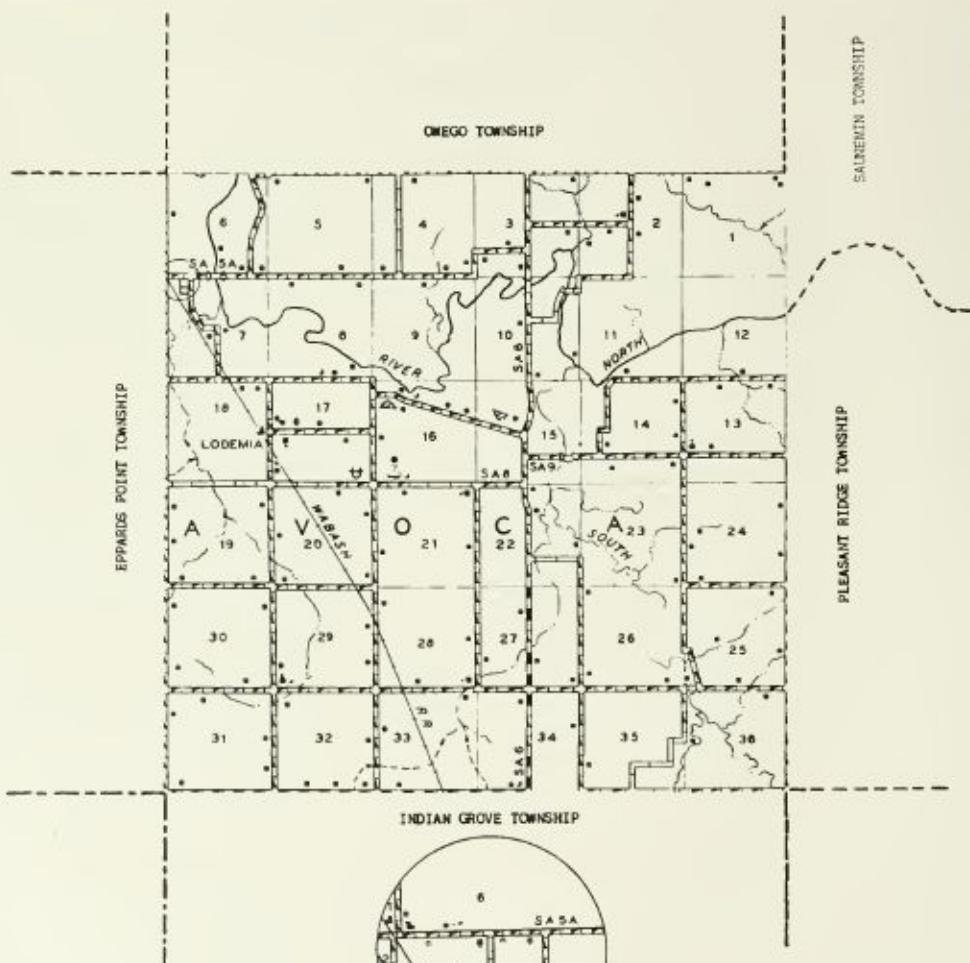
LODEMIA SCHOOL
Fairbury

Rt. 3
1 acre

REVISIONS
SEE COUNTY
MAP
FOR DATES
OF REVISIONS
OR ROAD TYPE
AND CULTURAL
FEATURES.

AVOCA TOWNSHIP GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP

PREPARED BY THE
BUREAU OF RESEARCH AND PLANNING
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & BUILDINGS
IN COOPERATION WITH THE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS



MCDOWELL
T27N R5E,R6E

The ABC club met monthly and minutes were written in longhand.

1999 Scanning of Paper Meeting Minutes

I am reasonably confident the computer scanning work was done by Duane Steidinger back in 1999. He spent many hours in retirement at the Dominy Library and he scanned in many documents. I received computer CD disks from his estate after he passed away, and these meeting minutes were in .TIF files on the CD. His obit is shown below.

Duane Steidinger

Duane Stanley Steidinger, 82, Fairbury, died at 9:52 a.m. Wednesday, May 28, 2014 at Fairview Haven Retirement Community, Fairbury.

Cremation rites were accorded.

A graveside service was at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Graceland Cemetery, Fairbury, with the Rev. Spencer Homan officiating.

Mr. Steidinger was born April 23, 1932 in Fairbury, the son of Nathan John and Lillian Reany Steidinger. They preceded him in death.



Mr. Steidinger

Survivors include several cousins including Mary Streitmatter, Fairbury, who cared for him along with special friend, Becky Whitfill, also of Fairbury.

Mr. Steidinger graduated from the University of Illinois with a bachelor's in Physics and then received his master's degree in Mathematics. He did freelance computer programming, was a serious tennis player and also enjoyed other sports.

The family suggests memorials be made to the Fairbury Presbyterian Church or to Fairview Haven Retirement Community.

Condolences and tributes may be made to the family at www.duffypilsmemorialhome.com.

Historical Value

These meeting minutes are of historical value. They indicate which farm families lived in Avoca Township in the 1955 to 1965 era. They also provide a glimpse into typical farm life in that era.

I created this document so these files could be uploaded to Archive.Org and hopefully future history researchers can easily retrieve this information.

I grew up on a farm about ½ a miles south of the Lodemia Elevator. I remember attending events at the Lodemia Hall as a young boy and teenager. According to the meeting minutes, I even gave some Recitations at some of the meetings! My father, Charles Maley, was President of the group in its 9th year of existence.

Dale C. Maley

Fairbury, Illinois, Historian

August 10, 2024

1955

CO-OPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK

College of Agriculture
University of Illinois
U. S. Department of
Agriculture and Livingston
County Cooperating

IN
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

Extension Service
Farm Advisory Work
Office: Cor. Plum & Madison
Pontiac, Illinois
Telephone - 5246

Pontiac, Illinois
June 1, 1960

Dear *ABC Club Members*:

On behalf of the Livingston County International Farm Youth Exchange Committee, we wish to thank you for your donation to the Livingston County IFYE Fund.

Donald Smallwood will leave in early June for Ireland, and will return in late November. He has asked us to schedule as many talks as possible for him during December. However, he also expects to be available during January for talks.

We will handle the schedule for his talks through our office in order to prevent mix-up in dates. So far, he has been scheduled for two talks. The dates are December 12 and January 21, both in the evening.

He will be available for noon, afternoon, and evening programs. So, if you are interested in having him appear before your group, please give us date and time.

In order to be fair to all, we will accept dates in order of their receipt in our office(s). Donors are being notified at this time so they will have the first opportunity to schedule a date.

Very truly yours,

Helen L. Sullivan
Mrs. Helen L. Sullivan
Home Adviser
Livingston County

Paul T. Wilson
Paul T. Wilson
Farm Adviser
Livingston County

HLS:PTW:CJC

AVOCA BETTERMENT CLUB

CONSTITUTION

Members of Avoca Betterment Club

James Goold Family
John Goold Family
Vernon Stephens Family
Vern Sanders Family
Howard Fugate Family
William Freed Family
William Frisby Family
Eldon Askew Family
Lester Perkins Family
Ernest Mies Family
Milton Harms Family
Kenneth Bressner Family
Darwin Freed Family
Warren Ernst Family
Glenn Bressner Family
Howard Wells Family
Cecil Ahlstrom Family
Mrs. Herbert Family
Gene Smallwood Family
Robert Link Family
Leslie Mies Family
Warren Ulfers Family
Walter Retter Family
Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Brickey

John Seiber
Robert Maurer
Paul Wilson
Warren Wessels
Don Kramer

March 1955

March Meeting

Twelve families met together at Lodemia hall on March for the purpose of organizing a group interested in the betterment of our community. Mr. John Gerber, and Mr. Robert Maurer, and Mr. Don Kramer were present to present ideas and guide the group in their discussion. The group decided that there was a great deal of work that an organization could find to do to make our community better. Some of the ideas mention were: 1. better farm fire organization.

2. Aid in 4H work.
3. road directory.
4. Landscaping of farms.
5. Fix R.R. crossings.
6. Community get-to-gethers with entire families.
7. Road betterment.
8. Better telephone lines.
9. Redecorate Lodemia Hall.
10. Community trip once a year.
11. Work with County Extension Agent in pushing some project.
12. Community work day.
13. Naming of farms.

The following officers were elected: President, James Gould
Secretary-treasurer, Howard Fugate
Vice President, Wm. Frisby
Bill Freed

The next meeting was to be held of the third Saturday night in April. Bring suggestion for a name for the club to the April meeting. It was decided to hold the group to 12 families for the next meeting.

Mrs. Gerber and Mrs. Maurer served a bountiful lunch, and the entire group enjoyed visiting and discussing plans for the new organization.

Howard Fugate, Sec.
James Gould, Pres.

April 1955

April Meeting

The Avoca group met on Saturday evening April 16th at Lodemia hall for their second meeting.

The meeting was called to order by the president. The secretary's minutes were not read. They will be read next time.

A constitution is to be worked out later by the committee--Mr. & Mrs. James Boold, Mrs. & Mrs. Bill ~~Boold~~ Freed, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Frisby, and Mr. & Mrs. Howard Fugate. This committee of officers will serve as prog ram committee for the year.

Mrs. & Mrs. Vernon Stephens were appointed as Home project committee chairman.

The community project coordinators are: Mr. & Mrs. Lester Perkins, Mr. & Mrs. Milton Harms, and Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Mies.

There was a discussion of the part this group wished to take in the fire prevention program under discussion in this community. There was a unanimous vote in favor of such a program.

The president presented our farm advisor, Mr. Paul Wilson, who was our speaker for the evening. He passed out check sheets with suggestions for improvements we might plan concerning our farm, our home and family, and our community and church.

The meeting was disrupted by a pair of characters, "Mike and Ike". Through their dialogue, the rest of us learned more news about our neighbors than our local newspaper presents.

A vote was taken on a name for our club, and the ~~AV~~ name AVOCA BETTERMENT CLUB received the most votes.

We enjoyed refreshments of sandwiches, pie, and coffee.

Howard F^ugate, Sec.

May 1955

May meeting

The Avoca Betterment Club met May 21st at L'Odemia Hall for their regular meeting. A number of new families were present to hear about the new organization. The copies of the Constitution for the club were passed out. There was some discussion and explaining of all the points in the constitution. Check sheets should be mailed to new members.

It was moved by John Goold and seconded by Eldon Askew that the constitution be accepted as presented. The motion carried.

There was some discussion about the rural fire district. Bill Frisby gave a report on what had taken place at the fire committee meeting.

There was a report on the work that had been done at Avoca cemetery.

Miss Wolfram, our county Home Advisor, gave us our program on ~~the~~ "Watching your step as family exchequer". After the program the whole group participated in a number of relays and games, and the evening was closed by refreshments of weiners, buns, relishes, pie, and coffee.

Howard Fugate, Sec.

James Goold, Pres.

June 1955

June Meeting

A.B.C. club Saturday evening June 28 at the Bill Freed home.

Meeting was called to order by the president. Minutes of last meeting were read by the secretary. Mrs. Ernst made motion that a \$2 yearly levy be made for each family to cover incidental expenses of the organization.

Bill Frisby reported of the rural fare fund. He stated that they were still short of reaching their goal.

July meeting to be held at the Jim Goold home. With the following assisting. Vern Sanders, Warren Ernst and Howard Fugate families.

Project cards were passed out. Names were placed in a hat for a work day to be held after oat harvest. The Vernon Stephens name was drawn.

A committee consisting of Lester Perkins, Milton Harms and Les Mies were appointed to investigate the possibilities and extent of improving the Leodemia Hall.

Paul Spangler of Northern Illinois Power and Light company talked on modernizing farm wiring.

July 1955

July Meeting

The July meeting of ABC club was held Saturday July 16th at the James Goold home.

The minutes of last meeting were read by the secretary.

The August meeting will be held at Vernon Stephens.

Work day at Vernon Stephens was set for July 28th. A committee to prepare dinner was named by the president as follows: Mrs. Ernst, Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Askew, and Mrs. Freed.

Bill Frisby gave a report on the Rural Fire Project.

Mr. Roy Linge of the SCS gave a illustrated talk on soil conservation as it applies to Avoca Township.

Home made ice cream and cake climaxed the evening.

Treasurer report

\$14.00 collected
1.00 spent for postcards
\$13.00 balance

August 1955

August Meeting

The August meeting of ABC was held at the Vernon Stephens home. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Three 4H members from the group exhibited at the State Fair- Billy Mies, James Ahlstrom, and Gale Bressner. Billy and James received a 2nd on their demonstration, and Gale did quite well with his Chester White hogs.

Milton Harms appointed to organize combining and corn picking for Mrs. Harold Barnes.

Roy Hammond, local representative of the Federal Land Bank, gave a talk on fulfilling ones ambitions.

Sept. committee to consist of Robert Link, John Goold and Vernon Stephens families.

Received \$8.00 dues

Balance in treasury \$24.00

September 1955

September Meeting

On Sept. 17th, ABC held their meeting at Howard Fugates with a weiner roast and picnic supper.

Meeting was called to order by James Goold, president. Mrs. Vernon Stephens read the projects listed by the members. The members commented on their progress. Most have completed their projects. Bill Frisby reported that he would give a complete report on his corn project at Oct. meeting.

A committee consisting of Cecil Ahlstrom, Les Mies, and Lester Perkins was appointed to work with Milton Harms in organizing husking and combining for Mrs. Barnes.

Paul Wilson gave a short talk reminding us that now was the time to get soil samples in. He also stated that there was to be a landscape planning meeting Oct. 17th.

Bob Maurer told that the pacemakers plan to include crops other than corn for 1956.

John Goold reported on the Barbeque plans for the Friday before picking contest.

October 1955

October Meeting

The October meeting of ABC was held at Lodemia Hall. The secretary read the minutes of last meeting which were approved as read.

Bill Frisby reported on his corn project.

Milton Harms reported ~~on~~/w/ that plans were working well toward picking and combining Mrs. Barnes crops:

Eldon Aupperle, and international youth exchange representative to Chile, gave an interesting report of his travels to that country.

Dues received to date	\$38.00
For post cards	2.00
Hall rental due	6.00
Balance	\$30.00

There was a thank you note from Mrs. Barnes.

November 1955

November meeting

The November meeting of ABC was held at Lodemia Hall. Because of the absence of other officers the secretary presided. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

Miss Peggy Hoffman, an international farm youth exchange visitor to New Zealand gave an interesting illustrated talk on her travels.

November balance	\$30.00
Dues received	<u>4.00</u>
	\$34.00

Disbursements

Post cards	\$1.00
Hall rental	<u>3.00</u>
	\$4.00

Balance in treasury ~~\$3.00~~ // #30.00

December 1955

December Meeting

ABC met at Lodemia Hall Dec. 17th. No business meeting was held as the entire evening was devoted to a Christmas party with special entertainment conducted by Bill and Katherine Frisby. A good time was had by all!

January Meeting

The treasurer reported that \$7.50 had been spent for flowers for ~~the~~ Herb Enderli. \$3.00 for hall rent. The balance is \$19.50/

The committee for Feb. is Eldon Askews)
Darwin Freedts) refreshments
Warren Ulfers)
~~Bill Freedts~~
Bill Freedts) entertainment

The speaker for January was/ Mr. Anderson from the University of Illinois. He gave several examples of communities who have accomplished a great deal when their projects were planned and promoted by community betterment groups.

February 1956

February Meeting

The February meeting of ABC was held at Lodemia hall. There was a number of guests present to help the club say farewell to the Arnold Tammen family who is moving soon. Guests were the Louis Gresenbachs, Bill Kindreds, Wayne Zillers, Dou Hishes, and the Albert Taveners. They were given an invitation to join our group. A card table and chairs was presented to Tammens as a farewell gift. Ernest Mies was in charge of the gift.

The president appointed the nominating committee to report in March:
Warren Ulfers
Dorothy Sanders
Howard Fugate

Louis Paul, who is State President of the Federation of Sportsmans clubs in Illinois, spoke on the subject of wild life, and showed movies of the State Parks in Illinois. He also showed travel movies of Canada.

Mr. & Mrs. Ahlstrom conducted some interesting entertainment, and the evening concluded with refreshments of salad and sandwiches.

Howard Fugate, Secretary
James Goold, President.

March 1956

March Meeting

The March meeting of A.B.C. was held on March 17th at Iodemia Hall. The minutes of last meeting were read. A very nice letter from the Arnold Tammens was read thanking the group for their gift and farewell party the month previous. Warren Ulfers, chairman of the nominating committee, presented the following officers for A.B.C. for the coming year;

Kenneth Bressner-President

Eldon Askew-----Vice President

Mrs. Milton Harms-Secretary Treasurer

A motion was made and seconded that the nominated ballot be made the elected ballot.

The rest of the evening was spent watching the state basketball games on the Jim Goold's new television. Refreshments of pie and sandwiches concluded the evening.

Howard Fugate, Sec.

Jim Goold, Pres.

April 1956

APRIL MEETING - 1956

The April meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held at the Lodemia hall on April 21st. The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting which were approved as read.

The hostess for this meeting were the new officers Kenneth Bressner, Eldon Askew and Milton Harms families.

There was no old business.

Mary Mies brought up the subject of helping to build the new 4-H barns that are to be built at Pontiac 4-H park as the following week the work was to be done.

Kenneth Bressner read some of the Clubs ideas that we had last year for any new members to know more what we were trying to do to improve our community.

Eldon Askew passed out paper to each adult so they could put down what they would like to do and try for this year as their project.

We had an attendance of 77 members and 9 guests at this meeting. Our hostess for the May meeting are the John Goolds, Robert Links and Gene Smallwoods.

The speaker was Mr. Wayne Schaible from Pontiac. He gave a very interesting talk and showed a film on problems of some children in their school and how things can be straightened out by teachers who take interest in their pupils. We were glad he also brought his wife and 2 sons with him.

Refreshments were served by committee and fellowship was followed.

Kenneth Bressner--Pres.
Lorene Harms--Sec. & Tres.

Treasurer report

14.50	on hand
10.00	dues paid

24.50	balance on hand

May 1956

MAY MEETING - 1956

The May meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held at Lodemia hall on May 19th. The minutes of the last meeting was read and approved of.

The hostess for this meeting were John Goold, Robert Link, and Gene Smallwoods families.

Bill Freed thanked the men in the group who helped at 4-H park in building of the new barns. There were about 20 men from his 4-H group to help and he appreciated this good turnout and help.

We had an attendance of 46 members and a nice number of guests. Our attendance was smaller on account of the Spring Festival and drawing in Fairbury.

There were only 4 papers turned in at this time for this year's home projects.

Our hostess for the June meeting are the James Goold, Mrs. Enderli and Walter Retter families.

Our intertainment for the evening was given by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kyburz of Chatsworth. They showed pictures of their trip to Europe and Swizerland. Mrs. Kyburz explained the pictures as Mr. Kybury showed them on the screen. It was very interesting and educational and enjoyed by all.

Refreshments were served by the committe.

Kenneht Bressner--Pres.
Lorene Harms--Sec.& Treas

Treasurer report

24.50	on hand
6.00	dues paid
<hr/>	
30.50	
3.00	for cards
<hr/>	
27.50	balance on hand

June 1956

June Meeting -1956

The June meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held at the Lodemia hall on June 16 th. The minutes of the last meeting was read and approved of.

The hostesses for this meeting were the James Goold , Walter Retter and Mrs Enderle families.

It was brought up by our Pres. if we wanted a work day this year like we had last year. The group agreed to have one. James Goolds name was drawn and he will set the date.

Bill Freed told the club group about the 4-H tour they are planing and when it is to be. Also about fild nite at the James Goolds home including a pit barbacue supper.

There were 71 members present at this meeting. Our Pres. passed out papers again for home projects there are 13 papers turned in at this time.

Our hostess for the July meeting are the Warren Ulfers, Warren Erenst and Ceil Alstrom faniles.

Our intertainment for the evening was square dancing and music by records.

Refreshments were served by the committe.

Kenneth Bressener Pres.
Lorene Ha rms Sec. Treas.

Treasurer report

\$	27.50	on hand
\$	8.00	4 dues paid
\$	35.50	balance on hand.

July 1956

July Meeting - 1956

The July meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held at the Kenneth Bressners home on July 21 st. The minutes of the last meeting was read and approved of.

The hostesses for this meeting were the Warren Ulfers, Warren Ernest and Ceil Alstrom families.

Jim Goold has decided to have work day at the Lodemia hall instead of at his place so it was decided to let Jim set the ~~date~~ for the work day. Nothing was settled at this meeting as to what was to be done.

Paul Wilson gave a talk about the work days for the 4-H Fair. He also thanked the 4-H leader+group for his invitation to the pit barbecue supper and how much he enjoyed it all.

There were 62 members and several guests at this meeting.

Our hostesses for the August meeting are the Vernon Stephens, Jesse Brickey and Ernest Mies families.

Duane Haney from Chenoa showed pictures of agricultural activities in Korea it was very interresting and educational. He explained the pictures as he went along.

Mr. Haney brought his wife and family with him for the meeting.

Refreshments were served by the committ~~ee~~e

Kenneth Bressner Pres.

Lorene Harms Sec. & Treas.

Treasurer Report

\$35.50	on hand
4.00	2 dues paid
\$39.50	
9.00	pd. Hall rent for 3 meetings
\$30.50	balance on hand.

August 1956

AUGUST MEETING 1956

The August meeting of the Avoce Betterment Club was to be held at the Howard Wells home but just before the meeting was to start, rain set in so had to move tables and chairs back to Lodemia hall and we had our meeting at hall on August the 18th. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved of.

— The hostesses for this meeting were the Vernon Stephens, Jesse Brickey and Ernest Mies families.

It was brought up at this time as to what to decide should be done on work day at the hall. So a committee was appointed for deciding what should be done and the date to work. Vern Sanders, Howard Wells and Eldon Askew are on this committee.

There were 73 members at this meeting. Our hostesses for the Sept. meeting are the Lester Perkins, William Freeds and William Frisby families.

Mr. Ralph Primm - Dist Sales Representative of Funk's Hybrid Seed Corn from Bloomington furnished us our entertainment for the evening by showing pictures called "THE GREAT STORY OF CORN". It was very interesting and colorful and enjoyed very much by all.

Refreshments were served by the committee.

Kenneth Bressner	Pres.
Lorene Harms	Sec. & Treas.

Treasure Report

30.50	on hand
7.00	dues paid
<u>37.50</u>	balance on hand

September 1956

SEPTEMBER MEETING 1956

The Sept. meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held at the Lodemia hall on Sept. 15th with a wiener roast supper. The minutes of the last meeting were read.

Roll call was answered by one member of the family by saying the number present from his family.

The hostesses for this meeting were the Lester Perkins, William Freeds and William Frisby's families.

The Pres. asked the chairman of the work committee Vern Sanders for a report. Mr. Sanders told the Club group that the township would appreciate anything they could do and would furnish the material only they did not have too much capital at present time so not to do too much this year. Mr. Sanders had a color chart for the women to decide on a color of paint for the ceiling and walls inside. The windows could be puttied, cleaned and varnished. Floors could be sanded and a finish put on. But to leave platform as it is for the time. The outside of hall can be painted. No date was set for this work as a busy time for harvest so decided to set the date at the next meeting.

There were 82 members and several guests present at this meeting.

Mrs. Frisby of the entertainment committee announced the next meeting would be a masquerade party come masked or pay the consequences.

Our hostesses for the Oct. meeting are the Howard Wells, Leslie Mies and Darwin Freed's families.

Mr. J.C. Ebach of Forrest furnished us our entertainment by showing pictures of Japan and explaining their way of farming and living also pictures of their buildings, schools, and country it was very interesting.

Kenneth Bressner Pres
Lorene Harms Sec. & Treas.

Treasure Report	
37.50	on hand
6.00	dues paid
<u>43.50</u>	
6.00	2 mo. hall rent
<u>37.50</u>	balance on hand

October 1956

OCTOBER MEETING 1956

The Outober meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held at the Lodemia hall on Oct 20th.

Roll call was answered by giving the number present from each family.

Minutes of the last meeting were read.

The hostesses for this meeting were the Howard Wells, Leslie Mies and Darwin Freed familie's.

Kenneth Bressner told the club group about a man he knew on helping or giving suggestions on land scaping if they would be interested in getting some one for that.

Mary Mies asked about taking two days for cleaning. One day to wash and clean to get the hall ready. Another day for painting and any other work that was to be accomplished this year.

Jim Goold suggested having a barbecue or chilli dinner for our work days.

The work committe was to decide when the work days were to be after the next meeting.

A committe was appointed to see and take care of the eats, Mary Mies, Elizabeth Askew and Mary Ann Ulfers.

There were 71 members and several cuestas at this meeting.

Our hostesses for the Nov. meeting are the Howard Fugate, Glen Bressner and Vern Sanders families.

Almost everyone came masked to this meeting as it was a halloween party. The Lester Perkins, William Freeds and William Frisby families furnished the entertainment for the evening. The hall being decorated for the occasion and many games enjoyed by all. Prizes going to winners. Everyone had a very nice time.

Names were drawn for hostesses and entertainment committees for to finish out the year.

Kenneth Bressner	Pres
Lorene Harms	Sec. & Treas.

Treasure Report

37.50	on hand
2.00	due paid
<u>39.50</u>	
2.00	paid out for cards
<u>37.50</u>	balance on hand

November 1956

NOVEMBER MEETING 1956

The November meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held at Loderia hall on Nov. 17th.

50 members were present to answer roll call. Minutes of the last meeting were read.

The hostesses for this meeting were Howard Fugate, Glen Bressner and Vern Sander families.

Kenneth Bressner asked Vern Sanders chairman of the work committee for a report. Mr. Sanders said they had set the days of the 28th and 29th and Nov. for working on the hall.

Mary Meis chairman of the eats committee thought it a good idea to pass a paper and let every family sign the day they thought they could help as that way the committee would know who to ask to help bring food.

Our hostesses for the Dec. meeting are the Richard Atteberry, Jesse Brickey and Kenneth Bressner families.

Mr. Reid Tombaugh from Pontiac gave a talk on the history of Livingston County starting at the time of the Indians it was interesting and educational for all.

Mr. Gerald Meng a friend of Mr. Tombaugh was also present at this meeting.

Bingo was played by most everyone starting out each had a prize everyone had a good time.

Kenneth Bressner Pres
Lorene Harms Sec & Treas.

Treasure report

\$37.50	on hand
4.00	2 dues paid
<u>\$41.50</u>	balance on hand

December 1956

DECEMBER MEETING 1956

The December meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held at the Lodemia hall on Dec. 15th

81 members and 9 guests were present at this meeting.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved of.

The hostesses for this meeting were Richard Atteberry, Jesse Brickey and Kenneth Bressner families.

Vern Sanders gave a report on the work and thanked everyone who helped with improving the hall. He told the names of the colors used on the walls, cieling and woodwork. Also about the finish and what was put on the floors. There is enough wax left for another coat for the floors and sometime if the women would like they could put it on at a later time. Mr. Sanders also said the he thought at meeting before of taking 2 days to work on hall but it took several days in all and a wonderful improvement it has made. Mr. Sanders told the club members that they were moving out of our territory and would not be members anymore but that they have enjoyed being with and group since the club started. Several members spoke up and thought that the Sanders family should continue to come to our meetings and still be members. So we hope they will continue to be a part of our club in the future as they have in the past. Bill Freed asked the club group to remember the women for the food on the work days and for the new curtains that they made to help improve the hall.

I was given a letter from Curtiss Weeks for the Avoca Betterment Club (the Avoca town clerk) thanking the club group for the fine improvement on the town hall and their sincere appreciation from Mr. Roy Black and rest of township officers.

Mr. Weeks also furnished 5 gal. of ice cream at this meeting in appreciation for our work on hall.

Our intertainment committe is Howard Fugate, Glen Bressner, and Vern Sanders families put up a very pretty Christmas tree, including treats on the tree for the children. They had a very nice program of songs, recitations and instrumental numbers by the children and group singing by all.

Mrs. Gaylord Stevens of Fairbury gave three chalk drawings about Christmas. Her daughter played records for music while Mrs. Stevens drew. It was enjoyed very much by everyone.

Our hostesses for the January meeting are Ernest Mies, Walter Askew and Milton Harms families. The intertainment committe are Robert Link, Vernon Stephens and John Goold families.

We had a lovely lunch served by the committe with small tree and decorations on table. A very enjoyable evening was had by all.

Kenneth Bressner	Pres.
Lorene Harms	Sec. & Treas.

Treasure report

\$41.50 on hand
2.00 pd. for cards
\$39.50 balance on hand

January 1957

JANUARY MEETING 1957

The January meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held at Lodemia hall on Jan. 19th.

47 members and 6 guests were present at this meeting. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved of.

The hostesses for this meeting were the Ernest Mies, Walter Askew and Milton Harms families.

Kenneth Bressner told the Club group about Jesse Brickey donating the railing and rubber rug runner for the chairs. We were glad to have Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Weeks and Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Weeks and Paul Wilson as guests at this meeting.

Kenneth Bressner thanked Curtis Weeks for the ice cream that they furnished at our last meeting also thanking him and the township officers for letting us use the hall the last three meetings rent free.

I paid a bill of \$7.50 for flowers that our club gave for Phyllis Smallwood.

Bill Freed suggested the men out on a pancake and sausage supper for the club and it was decided to have it at the next meeting.

Mr. Geo. W. Scheef of Pontiac from Livingston Service co. showed pictures taken while on one of his fishing trips in Canada ~~also a film on the teaching and training of hunting dogs.~~ It was very interesting.

Lunch was served by the committee.

Hostesses for the February meeting are the Walter Retter, Warren Ulfers and Leslie Mies families.

Kenneth Bresser	Pres.
Lorene Harms	Sec. & Treas.

Treasure Report

\$39.50	on hand
<u>7.50</u>	pd out for flowers
\$32.00	balance on hand

February 1957

FEBRUARY MEETING 1957

The February meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held at the Lodemia hall on Feb. 14th with a pancake and sausage supper put on by a committee of several of the men. We had a wonderful supper.

There were 79 members and number of guests present at this meeting.

The hostesses for this meeting were the Leslie Mies, Walter Retter, and Warren Ulfers families.

Kenneth Bressner thanked the men who helped with the pancake supper.

I read a thank you card for the Club from the Smallwood family.

Bill Freed told about a tour that Honegger's and Co. were having on the 4th and 7th and 8th of March and was wondering if any in Club would be interested in going on this tour. Several raised their hands saying they would like to go so the 4th of March was set and those wanting to go be at Honegger's at 10 o'clock A.M.

Our program for the evening was (This Is Your Life) in recognition for Bill Freed who had recently been chosen the young farmer of the year. Bill was presented a gift (A Bible) from the Club by the president Kenneth Bressner.

Lunch of coffee and donuts were served to everyone. Hostesses for the March meeting are the Darwin Freeds, Glen Bressner and William Freeds families.

Entertainment committee are the Cecil Ahlstrom, William Frisby and Eldon Askew families.

Kenneth Bressner

Pres.

Lorene Harms

Sec. & Treas.

Treasure Report

\$32.00	on hand
40.85	donations at supper
<u>\$72.85</u>	
54.03	expenses for supper (all paid)
1.00	for cards
<u>\$17.82</u>	balance on hand

March 1957

MARCH MEETING 1957

The March meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held at the Lodemia hall on March 16th.

There were 77 members and several guests at this meeting.

The hostesses for this meeting were the Darwin Freeds, Glen Bressner and William Freed families.

Kenneth Bressner thanked the Club group for turning out so good for the Honegger tour.

Kenneth read off the projects from the members for the year each telling what they have completed as their project.

Our new officers were put in for the following year.

Vernon Stephens	President
Cecil Ahlstrom	Vice President
Mrs. Leslie Mies	Secretary and Treasurer

A motion was made and seconded that the nominated ballot be made the elected ballot.

Cecil Ahlstrom introduced our intertainment for the evening first Mr. Larry Gnagey music instructor from Fairbury schools who gave a short skit on piano. He also gave a little talk about the Youth Center called the "Green Door". Second part a very nice talk by Rev. Norman Rostrom Chaplin of Pontiac reformatory.

Refreshments were served by the committee.

Kenneth Bressner	Pres.
Lorene Harms	Sec. and Treas.

Treasurer Report

\$17.82 on hand

March 1957

The Avoca Betterment Club attended the Honegger tour on March 4th, 1957. There were 35 members in all to attend. They met in front of Honeggers at 10 am. where they went to Honegger house for coffee and donuts. Then they took buses to Forrest farms. J.C. Eback was the tour leader. First spent about an hour at egg house. Went to self service store where they had 2000 baby chicks then went through the hatchery it was very interesting to see the two Japanese sex chickens. From the chickens houses went to the hog and cattle barns. It was all very interesting. Then we went back to Fairbury to Honegger House Cafe for a delicious fried chicken dinner. After dinner went to the feed mill in Fairbury. A very enjoyable trip for all.

April 1957

The April meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held on April 27, at the Modemia Hall with 64 members and 4 guests present. The meeting conducted by the president, Vernon Stephens opened with the Pledge of ~~the~~ Allegiance to the Flag, led by Keith Stephens. The secretary called the roll and read the minutes of the March meeting, which were approved as read. The president reminded the members that the dues of \$2 per family are due at the beginning of our year. It was suggested that we elect a club reporter. Bill Freed nominated Catherine Frisby. Kenneth Bressner moved the nomination be closed and a unanimous ballot be cast. It was seconded by John Goold. Roll call for next meeting will be "Your family project for this year". The drawing for the annual work day was held and Jesse Brickey was the winner. Bill Freed explained the possibility of an exchange tour. He had contacted some business men and also some members of the Rotary Club. Tentative plans call for a Sunday Afternoon trip after combining and a Pot luck supper at the hall in the evening. Cecil Ahlstrom made a suggestion that a committee be appointed to keep the weeds moved around the hall in the summer time. The president will appoint a committee at the next meeting.

Bill Freed program chairman introduced Neale Hanley who gave an interesting talk on some of the popular misconceptions of the law, as pertains to farmers and farming. Bill then introduced Bud Wink who showed us a small amount of his collection of antiques and guns which were greatly enjoyed by everyone especially on closer inspection. Vernon introduced Roy Taylor, Mayor of Fairbury, and Bob Maurer who were present. The meeting adjourned for lunch served by the Leslie Mies and Stephens families.

Vernon Stephens¹/₂-Pres.

Mary Mies--Secty

17.82 on hand
14.00 dues
31.82
- 1.50 cards
30.32

May 1957

MAY MEETING 1957

The May meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club met on May 18, at the Lodemia Hall with 69 members and one guest present. ~~Roll~~^{The} Pledge to the flag was led by *Nelson Lund*. Roll Call was answered by giving the family projects for the year. The minutes were read and approved and the treasurer report given. Mrs. Ahlstrom announced that we were to bring any kind of a salad for lunch for the June meeting.. Bill Freed reported that he had ~~talked~~ talked to the Farm Advisor Mr. Wilson about his trip to *the south* where he talked to members of a club such as ours. Mernon Stephens said that he had talked to Curtis Weeks about installing a light on the north east corner of the hall for an additional outside light. There being no further business the meeting adjourned and Ernest Mies introduced his cousin Eugene Mies of Pontiac who showed colored slides of his trip to Europe 4 years ago where he attended part of the Olympic games. He has also recently completed a trip around the world and offered to share his experiences with us when he has his pictures in order. The lunch committee for the next meeting is the Ahlstrom and Ulfers families, and the program committee is the Stephens and John Goold Families.

Vernon Stephens--Pres.

Mary Mies--Secty

On hand \$31.32
Dues 2.00

\$33.32

June 1957

June 1957

The regular meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held on June 15, at the Lodemia Hall with 75 members and 2 guests present. The pledge to the flag was let by Jay Goold. The minutes and treasurers report was accepted as read. Bill Fredd announced the Friendship Tour to be held August 11. Each family is to invite a family from Fairbury, the country families to furnish a cold picnic supper to be held at the Lodemia Hall after we have visited about 4 different types of farms. Vernon Stephens reported he had asked Curtis Weeks about hall rent and we are to pay no rent in exchange for redecorating the hall. It was suggested the secretary send cards to the absent members and advisors each month.

The next meeting will be held at the James Goold home with the Howard Fugate family as co-hosts. The Frisby and Brickey families will have the program. The president introduced Hartzel Munz who offered to arrange for us to use the sand pit for a swimming party if we so desired.

Vernon Stephens introduced the following program-- Stanley Weeks who sang two numbers accompanied by Jean Goold. Stanley also led us in group singing. A Flute solo by Janet Goold accompanied by her mother. A duet by Coleen and Randy Bressner, accompanied by their mother. Sheriff Willis Harms of Pontiac, told of his attendance at the F.B.I. training school for County Sheriffs and the responsibilities of his office. Lunch of salads and cheese and crackers was served by the Ahlstrom and Ulfers families.

Vernon Stephens --Pres.

Mary Mies --Secty

33.32
dues 4.00
37.32
paper 10
37.22

July 1957

The July meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held at the James Goold home with the Howard Fugate Family as co-hosts. Roll call was answered by telling the name of the family we had invited to the Visiting Day. The minutes and treasurer's report were accepted as read. Bill Freed announced plans for visiting day, we are to meet at the Leslie Mies home at 3:00pm.m., then to Glenn Bressners, and to John Goold's. A picnic supper will be held at the Goold Home. The Banks have offered to furnish part of the refreshments. The August committees will assist the host's.

Mr. Brickey offered to turn his work day over to Milton Harms who had the misfortune of having his hayloft collapse. The president named Jesse Brickey, Milton Harms and Bob Link as a committee to plan the workday.

The Melvin Metz and Charles Maley, and Paul Wilson families were introduced as guests.

Bill Frisby introduced Oscar Hannie, local fire chief for the past 14 years. Mr. Hammie gave some excellent hints on fire safety in the home and on the farm. He also asked that if we attend a fire that we allow room on roads and lanes for the fire equipment to get through. He also said that the local fire dept. has a class B. rating.

Miss Nell McClane of the county probation officer told of her duties and some of the cases she has aided. She has had 121 adoptions in the last 12 years.

Lunch of home made ice cream and cake was served by the hosts.

Vernon Stephens--Pres.

Mary Mies- Secty

Handwritten:
Paid 10.00
2.00
137.22
440.22

August 1957

AUGUST 1957

The Avoca Betterment Club met at 3:00 pm. on Sunday August 11, at the home of Leslie Mies for their Friendship Tour. Each family had invited a family from Fairbury. Ted Swigert, fieldman for the Pioneer Farm Management Service conducted the meeting. He and Leslie discussed the cost of setup and upkeep of dairying, approximate returns, Grade A. laws, and inspections by the health department. The group went to the barn to look over the set up and returned to the yard for another short question and answer period.

We then drove to the Glenn Bressner home, where Glenn and Virginia discussed their poultry enterprise, showing their modern laying house and demonstrating their egg washer. We also looked over their swine and were shown how the Swine Herd Improvement does a Back Fat probe to test the thickness of the layer of fat on the pork loin as this determines the marketability of hogs on the present day market.

The next stop was the John Goold Farm. John's Pacemaker plot of corn was inspected and also his beef feeding set-up. Everyone assembled in the recreation area north of the Goold home where a discussion was led by Keith Amstutz also of the FBFM service. He distributed literature showing production cost of different types of farming.

A picnic supper was enjoyed by nearly 200 persons. Drink and ice cream being furnished by the Fairbury banks.

The September committees are: Lunch, Richard Atteberry and Milton Harms. Program, Kenneth Bressner and Walter Retter.

Vernon Stephens--Pres
Mary Mies---Secty

Treasurers report \$40.22

September 1957

SEPTEMBER 1957

The Septmeber meeting of the Acova Betterment Club was held September 21, at the Lodemia Hall. After a weiner roast and pot luck supper, the meeting conducted by the president opened with the pledge to the flag led by Ronnie Freed. The minutes and treasurer report were accepted as read. Bill Freen thanked those who had helped to make the Friendship tour a success. It was decided to clean the hall and a number of women volunteered to help. Milton Harms thanked the members for the work day at his fram. Repairs for the prochwere discussed and tabled until after fall work is done. Bob Maure talked of the progress fo the pool fund and site. It is hoped to begin construction this fall. He also thanked the members who helped in the solocitaion of funds. ~~Frank~~ Ahlstrom invited the mema and boys to a F.F.A. Safety Dæmonstration Sept. 26 at the High School. The members were reminded that dues are payable at any time. The committees for October are lunch, Eldon Askew and Gene Smallwood program, James goold and lester perkins.

Kenneth Bressner introduced his sister and brother-in-law ,Mr. and Mrs. Norman Holzhauer who was in service in Austria and toured in their holiday time areound Europe and North Africa. They showed a very interesting collection fo colored slides and told of the different countries they had visited.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned to meet at the Lodemis Hall on October 19.

Vernon Stephens--Pres.

Mary Mies--Secty

Treasurer report.	\$40.22
Dues	18.00
Balance	<u>\$58.22</u>

October 1957

The Avoca Betterment Club met at the Lodemia Hall for their regular meeting on October 19. The pledge to the flag was led by Ellen Rae Fugate. Roll call was answered by telling the number of the family present. The minutes and treasurer report was accepted as read. Delma Freed thanked the members of her committee who had helped clean the hall. Repairs to the porch were discussed. Lester Perkins offered to donate the old Lodemia schoolhouse as an addition to the hall if the club would to the work of moving. More discussion next meeting. The president announced the committees for the November meeting. Lunch-Walter Askew and William Freed. Program- Darwin Freed and Vern Sanders. Lester Perkins introduced Warren Wessel who showed a colored film by the Kodak company, "This is America" and everyone's favorite Mickey Mouse. The food committee announced the luncheon for the November will be fruit salad and cake. Meeting adjourned.

Vernon Stephens --Pres.

Balance-	\$58.22
Dues	* 2.00
	<u>60.22</u>

Mary Mies--Secty

Cards	1.00
Balance	<u>\$59.22</u>

November 1957

The Avoca Betterment Club held their regular meeting on Saturday, November 16, at the Lodemia Hall. The pledge to the Flag was led by Johnny Mies. The minutes and treasurer report were accepted as read. The president appointed Les. Perkins, James Goold and Kenneth Bressner as a committee to plan the needed repairs to the porch of the hall. It was suggested that we have a pancake and sausage supper after Christmas. It was voted to allow the expense of the decoration for the Christmas party,

Verne Sanders introduced Dean Koehl, President of the Thnro Bilt company who talked on prebuilt houses and buildings and showed slides of different types of homes..

The december committees are: Lunch. Cloyd Wilson, John Goold and William Frisby. Program: Gene Smallwood, Leslie Mies, and Bob Links. Meeting adjounded.

Vernon Stephens--Pres

Mary Mies--Secty

Balande \$59.22

Dues	2.00
	<hr/>
	61.22

December 1957

DECEMBER MEETING 1957

The Avoca Betterment Club held their regular meeting on December 14, at the Lodemia Hall. The meeting conducted by the president opened with the pledge to the flag led by Tommy Smallwood. Roll call was answered by 90 members. The minutes and treasurers report were accepted as read. The next meeting will be on January 25, one week late because of the W. L. S. barn dance on our regular meeting nite. It was decided to have a pancake and sausage supper at the January meeting, with the men in charges Bob Link food chairman and Verne Sanders program chairman. the regular committee to furnish food and drink. The tour committee reported they had been considering a location for a tour possibly in February. It was moved to purchase a Christmas gift for Louis Retter. Mary Mies and Olive Stephens were delegated to purchase and deliver the gift. .

The program committee conducted a Christmas program of recitation and musical numbers by the children of the club, and conducted two games. "Name that Tune" and "I've got a secret" with audience participation.

The refreshment committee served home made candy to go with the lunch of Christmas cookies and fruit.

Balance	\$61.22
Gift	4.04
Tree and	
icicles	3.61
	<hr/>
	\$53.57
Dues	7.00
	<hr/>
	\$59.57

60.57

Vernon Stephens --Pres
Mary Mies-- Secty.

January 1958

JANUARY MEETING 1958

The Avoca Betterment Club met on Saturday January 25 at the Lodemia Hall. Before the business meeting a pancake and sausage supper prepared by the men was enjoyed by all. Roll call was answered by 101 members and 15 guests. A thank you card from Louis Retter was read. The president Vernon Stephens thanked Mr. Brickey for repairnig the piano stool. The Tour has been tnatively set for Feb 24 to tour the Prison, court house and jail in Pontiac. Mr. Maurer one of the members of the advisory committee thanked the club for the supper. The February committes and Lunch Ernest Mies and Walter Retter, and program- Eldon Askew and Milton Harms. There being no further business the meeting adjourned for one most hilarious programs every attempted.

Verne Sanders acted as master of ceremonies announced the following program. the McGqeer Sisters , who sang Mrl Sandman Eldon Askew and Milton Harms who imitated a-ee- two ladies.. of the community, A Mock wedding didicated to Bud and Lorens Wink with Ernest Mies, John Goold, Vernon Stephens & Howard Furgte and Bill Frisby as the Characters. he one and only Elvis by Dan Fugate, Dr. No Good and His patient by Melvin and Ken Metz. I shot the Bear by Jim Goold and Frank Ahlstrom. Conversation by the swimming pool with Bill Freed and Bill Frisby, Verne then read the very beautiful "The Farmer and the Lord". All the men gatherr on the stage to sing Good Nite Ladies, to close a very enjoyable program.

Vernon Stephens --Pres
Mary Mies--Secty

Income -

Plus -	
Smallwood	2.00
Cora Hook	1.00
Collection	64.55
Food sold -	13.80
	<hr/> 81.35

Expense
Milk 3.50
Napkins .50
Arbentas 1.18
Danceage 45.08
Misc 14.87

Lamps 13.90
Covers 2.02

80.97

Balance - \$60.57

81.35

141.92

80.97

Balance - 960.95

February 1958

FEBRUARY 1958

The Avoca Betterment Club met on February 15, at the Lodemia Hall with 38 members in attendance. The Pledge to the Flag was led by Betty Askew. The Minutes and treasurers report were accepted as read. Cecilia Ahlstrom, tour chairman, announced that we would have our tour on February 24 in Pontiac. We are to be at the Court House at 9:30 for a tour of the county offices with Neale Hanley as guide. Dinner will be at the Palamar at 11:30, with each member paying \$1.00 for their meal and the rest to be paid out of the treasury.. At 12:30 we will go the Prison for a conducted tour and then to the County Jail.

Kenneth Bressner reported that the town officials had discussed the repairs to the hall and that the stage could be torn out at any time after the tour. They have also dug a well. The president Vernon Stephens declared the meeting adjourned and the program committee provided music for square dancing. March committees are Lunch; Darwin Freed and Kenneth Bressner and program Cloyd Wilson and Glenn Bressner. Lunch will be sandwiches and salad.

Vernon Stephens--Pres.
Mary Mies--Secty

Balance on hand	\$60. 95
Dinner	42. 54
cards	1. 00
Balance March 15	
	\$16.41

year 1937-38.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
* Cecil Ahlstrom <i>pl</i>	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		4	4	1	2
Eldon Arkew <i>pl</i>			1	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	4
Walter Arkew <i>pl</i>				2	2	2		1		2		2
Richard Attiberry <i>pl</i>				4	4	4						
Kenneth Bressner <i>pl</i>	3	4	5	4	5	5		5	5	5	5	5
* Allen Bressner <i>pl</i>	5	5	5		1	1			5	5		4
* Jesse Brickey <i>pl</i>		2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		2
* William Freed <i>pl</i>	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Darwin Freed <i>pl</i>	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
William Frisby <i>pl</i>	1	5	5	5	0	0			5	5		1
* Howard Fugate	4	5	7	5	5	1	3	4		5	3	3
* James Gould <i>pl</i>		4	7	7			3		7	7		
John Gould <i>pl</i>	5		2	5	5				5	5		1
Milton Harms <i>pl</i>	2	2	2	2	2	2		2		2	2	2
* Robert Link <i>pl</i>	4	4	4	4	4	4		4	5	4		
* Leslie Mies <i>pl</i>	4	4	3	3	4	4	2	3	4	2	1	3
* Ernest Mies <i>pl</i>	5	5	3	5	3	3	3	7	5	5	5	
Lester Perkins <i>pl</i>	2				2	2	2	2		4		2
* Walter Retter <i>pl</i>	3		5	4	5	5				1		
Vern Sanders <i>pl</i>	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		4
Gene Smallwood <i>pl</i>							3		3	4		
* Vernon Stephens	5	5	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	5
Warren Wilson <i>pl</i>	1		2	2					1			
Howard Wells				5				4				
Cloyd Wilson <i>pl</i>		2						4	3	4		4
Kenneth Metz <i>pl</i>	3	3			3	3			4	3	2	
C E Wink <i>pl</i>	2	2	2	1			2			2		2

NATIONAL FARM LOAN ASSOCIATION OF BLOOMINGTON
Roy C. Hamman SEC.-TREAS.
FARM BUREAU BUILDING
202 EAST LOCUST STREET
BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

AMERICA SINGS



- 1-AMERICA
- 2-THE BAND PLAYED ON
- 3-HOME ON THE RANGE
- 4-YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE
- 5-OLD MACDONALD HAD A FARM
- 6-PEGGY O'NEIL
- 7-DON'T FENCE ME IN
- 8-I WANT A GIRL
- 9-I'VE BEEN WORKIN' ON THE RAILROAD
- 10-OH! SUSANNA
- 11-DOWN BY THE OLD MILL STREAM
- 12-LET ME CALL YOU SWEETHEART
- 13-DRIFTING AND DREAMING
- 14-LET THE REST OF THE WORLD GO BY

Compliments of
YOUR
NATIONAL FARM LOAN ASSOCIATION

1. AMERICA

My country! 'Tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the Pilgrim's pride.
From every mountain side
Let freedom ring.

2. THE BAND PLAYED ON

Casey would waltz with a strawberry blonde,
And the Band Played On.
He'd glide 'cross the floor with the girl
he adored,
And the Band Played On.
But his brain was so loaded it nearly
exploded,
The poor girl would shake with alarm.
He'd ne'er leave the girl with the
strawberry curls
And the Band Played On.

3. HOME ON THE RANGE

Oh! Give me a home, where the buffalo roam,
And the deer and the antelope play
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day.

Home, home on the range
Where the deer and the antelope play,
Where seldom is heard a discouraging word
And the skies are not cloudy all day.

4. YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE

You are my sunshine, my only sunshine;
You make me happy when skies are gray.
You'll never know, dear, how much I
love you;
Please don't take my sunshine away.

5. OLD MACDONALD HAD A FARM

Old MacDonald had a farm, Ee-igh, ee-igh, oh!
And on this farm he had some chicks,
Ee-igh, ee-igh, oh!
With a chick-chick here, a chick-chick there,
Here a chick, there a chick,
Everywhere a chick-chick;
Old MacDonald had a farm, Ee-igh, ee-igh, oh!

AVOCA BETTERMENT CLUB

CONSTITUTION

1. We, being a group of neighbors wishing to improve the welfare of the people in our community, join together under the name of the Avoca Betterment Club.
2. We shall encourage, cooperate, and work with any worthwhile community enterprises that will improve our homes and community.

BY LAWS

1. There will be a meeting held once a month.
2. Officers are to be elected at the March meeting of each year.
Officers shall be president, vice president, and secretary-treasurer.
3. Active membership will be open to farm families residing in Fairbury-Cropsey District #3 north of Route 24.
4. Advisory membership shall include:
 - A. Farm and Home Advisers.
 - B. Representatives from local banks.
 - C. Chairman of Livestock Boosters organization.
 - D. Agriculture teacher of school district #3.
 - E. Other members as elected by the majority vote of members present.
5. Each family must register and engage in at least one home project.
6. Committees are to be appointed by elected officers as needed.

THE MINUTES OF THE AVOCA BETTERMENT CLUB FOR THE YEAR

OF 1958~~and~~1959.

1959 and 1960

1960 and 1961

JOHN GOOLD PRESIDENT

ELIZABETH ASKEW SECRETARYandTREASURER

A.B.C. Year 1958-1959

		APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	Project Report
Pd. April	1. Cecil Ahlstrom	3	P	4	P		3		4	3	4	a	P	4
Pd. March	2. Eldon Askew	4	P	2	P		3		4	3	4	4	P	2
Pd. March	3. Walter Askew	2	P	2	P		a		1	2	2	a	A	
	4. Richard Attelberry ^{R.2}		P		a		a			a	a	a	A	
Pd. March	5. Glenn Bressner			6	a		a		4	5	5	a	A	6
Pd. Sept.	6. Kenneth Bressner ^{R.3}	5	P	2	P		5		2	3	5	a	P	5
Pd.	7. Jesse Brickley	2	P	2	a		2		2	2	2	2	P	2
Pd. May	8. Darwin Fred	2	P		P		2		2	a	2	2	a	2
Pd. Dec.	9. William Freed	5	P	5	P		5		5	5	5	5	P	4
Pd. May	10. William Frisby	1	P		P		2		2	5	5	4	a	
Pd. March	11. Howard Fugate ^{R.2}	4	P	1	P		4		3	5	4	5	P	5
Pd.	12. Cora Gould ^{R.2}				P		1		1	a	a	1	P	
Pd. April	13. Ida Gould	1		2	a		a			1	2	a	a	
Pd. Sept.	14. James Gould				a		4		3	5	a	a	a	
Pd. Mar.	15. John Gould	5	P		P		5		5	5	5	5	P	5
Pd. May	16. Dan Fugate ^{R.2}		P	5	P		a			a	a	a	a	
Pd. Mar.	17. Milton Harms	2	P	2	P		2		2	2	2	2	a	2
Pd. Sept.	18. Bill Kindred ^{R.3}			5	a		4			4	5	a	a	
Pd. Feb.	19. Charles Malley				a		a		2	a	a	a	a	5
Pd. Sept.	20. Melvin Metz ^{R.3}			3	a		2			a	1	a	a	
Pd. June	21. Kenneth Metz ^{R.2}			4	a		3			a	a	a	a	3
Pd. July	22. Ernest Mies	5		5	P		a		6	5	5	3	A	4
Pd. April	23. Leslie Mies ^{R.2}	4		3	P		a		3	3	4	3	P	3
Pd. Mar.	24. Lester Perkins		P	P			2		2	a	9	2	a	4

No Meetings

*****COMMITTEES FOR THE YEAR***** 1958-59

LUNCH

APRIL

--ENTERTAINMENT--

JOHN GOOLD
ELDON ASKEW
MILTON HARMS

SAME

MAY

JESSE BRICKEYS
VERNON SANDERS
RICHARD ATTEBERRY

DARWIN FREED
WALTER ASKEW
ELMER TWINK

JUNE

IDA GOOLD
HOWARDS WELLS
WALTER ASKEW

VERNON STEPHENS
KENNETH METZ
ROBERT LINK

JULY

DAN FUGATE
DARWIN FREED
KEN BRESSNER

CECIEL AHLSTROM
HOWARD WELLS
IDA GOOLD

AUGUST

ELMER WINK
ROBERT LIND
LYLE RICKETTS

KENNETH BRESSNER
JESSE BRICKEY

SEPTEMBER

WARREN ULFERS KEN METZ
LESTER PERKINS

WILLIAM FREED
WILLIAM KINDRED
LYLE RICKETTS

OCTOBER

CHARLES MALEY
ERNIE MIES
LESLIES MIES

VERNON STEPHENS
MELVIN METZ
HOWARD FUGATE

NOVEMBER

WILLIAM FRISBY Charles Maley
JAMES GOOLD AND
HOWARD FUGATE Bill Freed

ERNEST MIES - Melvin Metz
WALTER RETTE R
GENE SMALLWOOD

DECEMBER

WILLIAM FREED Jim Goold
MELVIN METZ Cecil Ahlstrom
GLENN BRESSNER ERNIE MIES

JAMES GOOLD - Vernon Stephens
LESTER PERKINS
LESLIES MIES

JANUARY

CLOYD WILSON Leslie Mies
BILL KINDRED
CECIEL AHLSTROM Melvin Metz

WILLIAM FRISBY - Howard Fugate
GLENN BRESSNER
RICHARD ATTEBERRY

FEBRUARY

GENE SMALLWOOD
WALTER RETTER
CORA GOOLD

CLOYD WILSON
DAM FUGATE
CHARLES MALEY

MARCH

VERNON STEPHENS
JOHN WAGENSELLER
HARLEY ASPER

CORA GOOLD
WARREN ULFERS

PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS FOR 1958 AND 1959

BELLS- MRS PATTEN LEXINGTON

CORONOR- VON QUALEN DUGHT F. HOME

COUNTY TREASURER - CHARLES YOUNG

C COUNTY RECORDER- MORRIS COX

LINCOLN'S HISTORY - DR.. GADDIS "DENTIST PONTIAC

PICTURES ON EUROPE-MRS.. DOCTOR MARSHALL

PICTURES ON HOLY LAND- E.R. SMITH SAUNEMIN

NOTATATIONS*****

IN AUGUST ASK HARTZEL MUNZ ABOUT OUTING AT SAND PIT

PICK TOUR COMMITTEE AND PROJECT COMMITTEES

DRAW WORK DAY NAME EARLY

NAME TWO HOSPITALITY CHAIRMAN

GEVE OUT CONSTITUTION PAPERSTO NEW MEMBERS

FAMILY PROJECTS FOR 1958-59

1. CECIL AHLSTROM-PAINT BUILDINGS -
2. ELDON ASKEW-FIX MILK HOUSE -
3. WALTER ASKEW- *BATHROOM*
4. RICHARD ATTEBERRY-FIX FENCE
5. GLENN BRESSNER- *PAPER AND PAINT*
6. KENNETH BRESSNER-PAINT BUILDINGS
7. JESSE BRICKEY- *FIX SNOW PLOW*
8. DARWIN FREED-TEAR DOWN BUILDINGS
9. WILLIAM FREED-ROCKS PICKED UP
10. WILLIAM FRISBY-PAINT, VACATION
11. HOWARD FUGATE-FEED MILL
12. CORAG GOOLD *BEING HELPFUL*
13. IDA GOOLD -
14. JAMES GOOLD- *Fix Basement*
15. JOHN GOOLD-VACATION, PAINTED
16. DAN FUGATE -GENERAL MAINTAINCE AND REPAIR
17. MILTON HARMS-PAPER KITCHEN, TAKE TRIP.
18. WM. KINDRED
19. CHARLES MALEY
20. MELVIN METZ
21. ENIE MIES-FEEDING FLOOR, VACATION
22. LIESLIE-- MIES--LANDSCAPING *AND CEMENT*
23. BESTER PERKINS--PAINT GARAGE
24. KENNETH METZ--
25. WALTER RETTER--
26. *LYLE* RICKETTS-
27. VERNON SANDERS-MOW Weeds and grass
28. GENE SMALLWOOD--
29. VERNON STEPHENS-CEMENT LOT

March 1958

MARCH MEETING#1958

The Avoca Betterment Club met at the Lodemia Town hall on the evening of March 15, 1958. The President Vernon Stephens, opened the meeting with the first graders leading in the Pledge to the Flag. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was \$16.41 on hand. Eighteen Members answered Finished Home Projects. Darwin Freed and WM. Freed Families had perfect attendance records. A card of Thanks was sent to Mr and Mrs. Sheriff Willis Harms and one of Congratulations to the Glenn Bressner Family on the birth of a son, Dennis Duane. The nominating committee for the year was asked to name the officers for the coming year. Kenneth Bressner, Chairman named John Gould **--President

Milton Harms*--Vice president

Elizabeth Askew - Secretary
Since the committee was unable to find someone to accept the office of secretary, a nomination from the floor by WM. Freed that Elizabeth Askew be nominated to that office. The Nomination was seconded by Kenneth Bressner. The vote carried. There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

The Entertainment Committee Glenn Bressner, Cloyd Wilson families introduced Mr. John Wagon seller who showed us his beautiful colored pictures of their trip thru the Southern States it was interesting to both young and old.

The refreshment committees Kenneth Bressner, Darwin Freed families served lunch of sandwiches, cocoa, coffee, salad.

TREASURER'S REPORT

forward

VERNON STEPHENS -PRESIDENT
MARY MIES- Secretary

BAL. bro't forward	16.41	
DUES PD.	24.00	

	40.41	
EXPENSES	1.50	
CARDS		
NOTE PAPER	---.25--	
	1.75	
	40.41	
	1.75	
	---38.66--	BALANCE ON HAND

April 1958

APRIL MEETING 19, 1958

THE APRIL MEETING OF THE AVOCA BETTERMENT CLUB WAS HELD AT THE LODEMIA TOWN HALL ON THE EVENING OF APRIL 19, 1958. our new president JOHN GOOLD, OPENED THE MEETING WITH ALL SING-ING AMERICA ACCOMPANIED BY BERNICE BRESSNER AT THE THE PIANO. ROLL CALL WAS ANSWERED BY 63 BEING PRESENT. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST METTING WERE READ AND APPROVED. THE TREASURER'S REPORT WAS \$38.66 on hand. THEIR BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE PRESIDENT HE PROCEEDED TO APPOINT COMMITTEES AND OFFICES FOR THE COMING YEAR.

FOUR COMMITTEE
MELVIN METZ
CLOYD WILSON
LESLIE MIES

PROJECT COMMITTEE
ELDON ASKEW
GLENN BRESSNER

PROGRAM-COMM.
WILLIAM FREED
KENNETH METZ
WILLIAM FRISBY

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE
DARWIN FREED AND THE JESSE BRICKEY FAMILIES.

REPORTER-----FRANCIS AHLSTROM

OUR NEXT MONTH'S ROLL CALL WILL BE ANSWERED BY PROJECTS FOR THE COMING YEAR. THE WALTER RETTER FAMILY 'S NAME WAS PULLED OUT OF THE BOX FOR THIS YEAR'S WORK DAY. KENNETH BRESSNER REPORTED THAT MRS. ATTEBERY WAS IN THE HOSPITAL AND THAT A CARD BE SENT TO HER. THEIR BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS JOHN GOOLD ANNOUNCED FRANCIS MOWERY, WHO SPOKE TO US ON "THE HISTORY OF AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE STATE POLICE", AND ANSWERED NUMEROUS QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE. ACCHARCOAL WIENER ROAST, SALAD, AND DRINKS FURNISHED THE REFRESHMENTS FOR THE EVENING.

JOHN GOOLD PRESIDENT
ELIZABETH ASKEW SECRETARY

TREASURER'S REPORT

\$38.66	\$46.56
8.00	1.26
-----	-----
\$46.66	\$45.30 BALANCE ON HAND
.10 CARD	
\$46.56	

May 1958

MAY 17, 1958

THE AVOCA BETTERMENT CLUB MET AT THE LODEMIA HALL FOR THEIR MAY MEETING. PRESIDENT JOHN GOOLD, ASKED WAYNE ASKEW TO LEAD THE "PLEDGE TO THE FLAG. ROLL CALL"; FAMILY PROJECTS FOR THE YEAR. WAS ANSWERED BY 20 FAMILIES.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT WAS \$45.30 ON HAND.

VIVIAN ATTEBERRY THANKED THE SECRETARY FOR THE CARD SENT FROM THE CLUB.

IT WAS STATED THAT THE CONDITION OF THE FLOOR IN ONE CORNER OF BUILDING WAS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF MR. WEEKS. FRANCIS AHLSTROM REPORTED THAT THERE WERE CHAIRS BEHIND THE METHODIST CHURCH AND THAT WE MIGHT LOOK AT THEM AND SEE IF THEY WERE WORTHY OF REPAIR, IF SO WE COULD HAVE THEM FOR OUR MEETINGS. PRESIDENT JOHN GOOLD APPOINTED WARREN ULFERS AND CECIL AHLSTROM TO SEE ABOUT THEM AND PURCHASE THEM IF USEABLE. WORK WILLIAM FREED REPORTED THAT THE TOUR COMMITTEE WOULD/OUT A TOUR AS SOON AS FIELD WORK LESSENERD. TH EIR BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING ADJOURED.

CARRIE ASKEW GAVE A READING IN WHICH IT CALLED FOR LIVELY AUDIENCE PARTICAPATION. A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL.

VIOLA AND DARWIN FREED CONDUCTED NUMEROUS GAMES OF SKILL BY CHOOSING TEAMS AND ONE FROM EACH SIDE COMPETING, THE HARLEY ASPER FAMILY JOINED OUR CLUB THIS MEETING.

THE REFRESHMENT S SERVED COOKIES, SANDWICHES, COOLAIDE AND COFFEE.

JOHN GOOLD PRES.
ELIZABETH ASKEW SECT.

TREASURER' S REPORT

\$45.30 BAL. BRO'T FORWARD

10.00 FIVE DUES PD.

\$-----

\$55.30 BALANCE BRO'T FORWARD

June 1958

JUNE 21, 1958

The Avoca Betterment Club met at the Lodemia Town Hall on the evening of June 21st. Milton Harms our Vice-President conducted the meeting in the absence of our President John Goold. The "Pledge to the Flag" was led by Karen Link. Roll call answered by 72 family Members and 9 guests were present.

The John Wagenseller family joined at this meeting.

Mr. Ahlstrom introduced his sister and her family who are visiting them now.

Our next meeting will be held July 12th because it conflicted with the "Livestock Booster supper and many of our families may like to attend this meeting. Wm. Freed said "Mr. Kline, an outstanding speaker in Agriculture, will speak at 8 o'clock. They expect 25 to 3000 to be present.

The Vice President, Milton Harms asked Cecil Ahlstrom to report on the purchase of the chairs from the Methodist church. He reported that they were disposed of before he could examine them but he heard that they were not worthy of repair.

Kenneth Bressner reported a Livingston Civil Defense Organization for the Fairbury Area. This is an Organized group of Volenteers to call upon in cases of disaster. The meeting of this area is scheduled for Tues. July 1st at 8 o'clock at the Lincoln School. He urged all organizations and individuals to attend.

Wm. Freed reported our "Tour Date" to August 10th. There being no furture business the meeting adjourned.

Arlene Link introduced Mr. "Bill Mathias" from Chatsworth who told of his trip around the world and showed pictures of his interesting trip in 1953.

The Lunch Committee served us Pie and Sandwiches Coffee and Cool ade.

Bal bro't forward	\$55.30
2 dues pd.	<u>4.00</u>
Bal. on hand	\$59.30

Milton Harms Vice Pre.
Eliz. Askew, Sect.

July 1958

JULY 12, 1958

THE AVOCA BETTERMENT CLUB MET AT THE DAN FUGATE FARM FOR A STEAK FRY. SATURDAY EVENING. THE SUPPER WAS A "SIZZLING SUCCESS". AFTER SUPPER CLEAN UP, THE PRESIDENT OPENED THE MEETING BY ROLL CALL "FAMILY PROJECTS". 20 FAMILIES WERE PRESENT AND 4 GUESTS. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING WERE READ AND APPROVED. THE TREASURY REPORT WAS \$59.30. ON HAND. BILL FREED REPORTED ON THE TOUR OF THE JAMES GOOLD AND THE BILL KINDRED AND THE JOHN GOOLD FARMS. IT WILL START AT 3 O'CLOCK SUNDAY AUGUST 10TH. BRING GUESTS AND A WELL FILLED PICNIC BASKET TO BE EATEN AT THE JOHN GOOLD FARM. AT 6:30. THE PRESIDENT JOHN GOOLD APPOINTED ERNIE MIES TO RECRUIT HELPERS TO SET UP CHAIRS AND TABLES FOR THE SUPPER. MR CURTIS WEEKS REPORTED ON THE "CIVIL DEFENSE ORGANIZATION" TO OUR GROUP. MRS. MARGARETHA MEYER, STRAWN LIVINGSTON COUNTY CIVIL DEFENCE DIRECTOR ASKED MR WEEKS TO SEE WHAT WE OF THE AVOCA AREA WISHES WERE ON THIS MATTER. HE URGED US TO ATTEND A MEETING AT THE LINCOLN AUDITORIUM AT 8PM. MONDAY. CECIL AHLSTROM INTRODUCED MR. RAYMOND GROVER OF FAIRBURY WHO IS THE SUPERINTENDANT OF ALL "PRISON INDUSTRIES OF ILLINOIS". HE SPOKE OF HIS WORK AND WHAT IT ENTAILED, HE HAD THE FINISHED PRODUCTS ON DISPLAY AND TOLD HOW THEY WERE MADE IT WAS VERY INTERESTING TO HEAR AND TO SEE.

WE ADJOURNED AFTER A VERY PLEASANT EVENING.

JOHN GOOLD PRES.

ELIZ. ASKEW SECT.

TREASURER'S REPORT

\$	\$59.30	bal. BRO'T FORWARD
	4.32	post cards

	54.98	
	2.00	dues pd.

\$	56.98	bal. on hand

August 1958

ABC TOUR AUGUST 10TH

THE SECOND ANNUAL BETTERMENT TOUR ON SUNDAY WAS WELL ATTENDED WITH SEVERAL HUNDRED ATTENDING THE HUGE POT LUCK AT THE JOHN GOOLD FARM IN CONCLUSION OF THE TOUR. TED SWIGERT AND KEITH AMSTUTZ, PIONEER FARM BUREAU FARM MANAGEMENT FIELDMEN, DESCRIBED THE WILLIAM KINDRED FARM AND JAMES GOOLD BEEF PRODUCTION FACTORY. WILLIAM KINDRED FARMS ON A 50-50-LIVESTOCK SHARE LEASE AT THE ADA CHESEBRO FARM, WHERE 480 acres are devoted to the production of beef and hogs. the cropping system, on a 4 year AVERAGE CONSISTS OF 52% CORN 6% SOYBEANS, 21% OATS AND 21% HAY AND PASTURE. YIELD AVERAGES FOR THE PAST FOUR YEARS ARE CORN 75 BUSHELS 8 OYBEANS 33BUSHELS: OATS 54BUSHELS. WITH AVERAGE GRAIN RETURNS AT \$ 60.00 A TILLABLE ACRE..

HOT PRODUCTION ON A FOUR YEAR AVERAGE RESULTED IN 104LITERS A YEAR, AVERAGING 7.7LITERS PIGS AWEANED A LITTER, RETURNING \$140 FOR EACH \$100 IN FEED CONSUMED.

CATTLE RETURNED \$135 FOR \$100 IN FEED. NINETY YEARLING STEERS BOUGHT IN THE FALL AND SOLD THE FOLLOWING SEPTEMBER, SOLD FOR \$24 resulting in a return OF \$30 A STEER, ABOVE FEED COST.

TOTAL FARM INVESTMENT OF \$300,000 RETURNED \$38,000 IN TOTAL VALUE.

AT JIM GOOLD'S, THE TOURISTS SAW \$20,000 WORTH OF CATTLE FEEDING EQUIPMENT, CONSISTING OF A LOT 120x104 SHELTER BARN; 30x50 HAY FEEDER: SURFACE SILOS; UPRIGHT SILO, AND FOUR AUTOMATIC WATERERS.

KEITH AMSTUTZ TOLD HOW CONVENTIONAL CORN PRODUCTION MACHINERY COSTS TOTAL \$9.70 AN ACRE, PACKING THE GROUND 3.4TIMES PER EVERY INCH. SOME FARMERS ARE REDUCING MACHINERY COST PER ACRE TO \$7.75 AND PACKING THE GROUND ONLY 1.8 TIMES PER EVERY INCH BY DISCING A PLANTING IN ONE OPERATION, FOLLOWED BY ONE CULTIVATION AND ONE SPRAYING.

September 1958

SEPTEMBER-1958*

The Avoca Betterment Club Met at the Hall for their September 20 meeting.

The meeting was opened by the President John Goold who asked all to sing America. Jean Goold accompanied at the Piano. Roll call-members present 64. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was \$56.98 on hand.

Bill Freed thanked the club for cooperating with them on the A.B.C. Tour

Robert Maurer-announced that a breakfast will be served to the Public Saturday Sept. 27 At the Leagion Hall. They will serve between the hours of 6a.m. to 9a.m. Adult tickets 45¢ Children 25¢. This breakfast will be to promote the use of our farm products and better health with better breakfasts. Bill Freed and John Goold have tickets for the breakfast. The entertainment committee the Wm. Freed's. William Kindred and the Lyle Ricketts Families had Kenneth Bressner tell of the trip that some of the members took down to Dixon Springs Ill. It sounded as if they all had an interesting and fun packed trip.

Melvin Metz then showed his colored pictures on Korea.

The lunch Committee's Warren Ulfers, Kenneth Metz and Lester Perkins served Salad, cup cakes, coffee, Grape drink.

John Goold, President
Eliz. Askew, Sect.

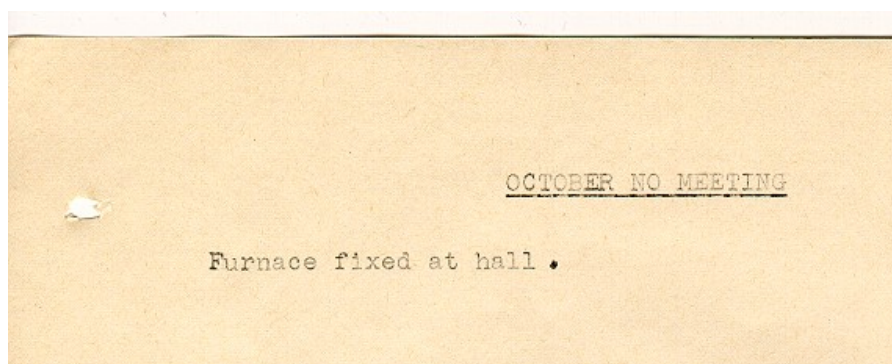
TRASURERS REPORT

\$56.98 Bal. on hand
12.00 dues paid

\$68.98
4.00 to Dan Fugates for Charcoal for Steak Fry

\$64.98 Bal. on hand

October 1958



November 1958

Nov. 15, 1958

The November meeting of the A.B.C. club met at the hall Saturday Nov. 15 at 7:30 p.m.

The president opened the meeting with all singing-"The more we get together."

Roll call was answered by 63 recorded present and Nine Guests.

The treasurer's report was \$64.98 on hand. Wm. Frisby being on program committee for January suggested that the women put on the Entertainment that evening and the men the eats. It was made into a Motion and seconded so that will be the evenings arrangements. ~~It was made into a motion and seconded so that will be the evening arrangements~~

John Goold reported that Verne Sanders, who has been hospitalized in Peoria, is home for the week~~end~~. He sent his thanks for the plowing of 80 acres of ground where he is to move in the spring. Also the ladies who sent food and served the workers. He appreciated the cards and letters he received.

Our guests for the evening were Mrs. Hazel Decker-Albert^{Mother} Tavener and family and the Ed Schmidt Family, and Clare Mies and Mrs. Reese. James Ahlstrom made an announcement about the Jr. play and prices of the tickets are 75¢ and 50¢.

It was brought to the attention of the club of the new furnace that was installed in October. Kenneth Bressner told how to operate the furnace till a switch was installed.

There being no further business the meeting was turned over to the Entertainment Com. Mies, Retters, and Smallwoods. Ernest Mies introduced Alber Tavener who showed pictures on Europe.

A play the "Sweet Family" was put on by the following S Ma-Hazel Decker--daughters-

1. Eliz. Askew
2. Cather~~ine~~ Frisby
3. Louise Schmidt
4. Mary Mies
5. Helen Fugate
6. Mary Ellen
7. Jean Goold

This concluded the evening's entertainment. Refreshments of pie, sandwiches cocoa and coffee were served by Freeds, Mal~~ays~~, and Howard Fugate, and Frisbys.

Pres. John Goold
Sect. Elia. Askew

TREASURERS REPORT

\$64.98

4.50 Post cards

\$60.48 Bal on hand.

December 1958

20th
DECEMBER MEETING - 1958

The meeting of the Avoca Betterment club held their Dec. 20th meeting at the Avoca Town Hall.

The President, John Goold, opened the meeting and roll call was answered by 88 members present. the WillardMack Family were our guests.

The Minutets of the last meeting were read and approved.

The treasurer's report was \$60.48 bal. on hand. one due was paid.

Our next meeting will be our PANCAKE SUPPERNIGHT. The men will do the supper honors and ladies will provide the evening's entertainment. Bob Link is chairman of the kitchen committee. Mary Mies, Catherine Frisby and Lorene Harms in charge of the evenings entertainment.

Verne Sanders was back with us again and we were glad to hear that he is feeling better each day. He thanked us again for all kindnesses done for him and his family. President John Goold assured Verne that we were ready to help whenever he needed us. The president appointed Elmer Wink, Ernie Mies and Glenn Bressner. to plan our Winter Tour.

Our Christmas tree was drawn out by William Mies.

William Freed told about his Livestock Booster trip he took recently wher they toured different type of farms in Dekalb County. There were 25 out of forty. present from Fairbury.

This concluded the business meeting and a "Old Fashion Christmas Program" was put on by the children. this we really enjoyed. Pop corn balls and candy canes were their reward.

Lunch of Christmas cookies and fruit, cocoa, coffee were attractively served.

We thank the committies for the fine evening.

JOHN GOOLD PRES.
ELIZ. ASKEW SECT.

TREASURER'S REPORT

#60.48
2.00 due paid
#62.48 bal. on hand

January 1959

17d
JANUARY MEETING - 1959

A PANCAKE SUPPER WAS PUT ON BY THE MEN OF OUR ORGANIZATION. IT WAS REALLY ENJOYED BY THE WOMEN AND OTHER GUESTS. THE SHORT BUSINESS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED BY PRESIDENT JOHN GOOLD. ROLLO WAS ANSWERED BY 76 MEMBERS PRESENT AND NINE GUESTS. THE GUESTS WERE MR. AND MRS. ELMER AUERLE AND DAUGHTER, MR. AND MRS. LOGAN, MR. AND WAYNE ZILLER, MR. AND MRS. LYNN WESSELS.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT WAS \$62.48 on hand.

THE TOUR COMMITTEE HAD NO REPORT AS YET.

MARY MIES ANNOUNCED ABOUT THE WORK SHE IS DOING FOR THE HOSPITAL AUXILIARY AND WHAT KIND OF MEMBERSHIPS ARE OFFERED AND WHAT EACH ENTAILS.

LORENE HARMS REPORTED THAT THE HERB STIEDINGERS HAD OFFERED THE HALL A PIANO FOR THE MOVING. A MOTION WAS MADE BY WM. FREED AND SECONDED BY BILL FRISBY THAT ELMER WINK SEE THAT HE HAD HELP IN MOVING THE PIANO TO THE HALL.

ARLENE LINK URGED ALL TO GIVE A BIG HAND TO THE MEN FOR THE SUPPER.

THE PRESIDENT CALLED OUR ATTENTION TO THE NEW FACILITIES RECENTLY INSTALLED AND THE CARE OF SUCH. ONE DUE WAS PAID.

A THANK YOU NOTE WAS READ FROM THE WALTER ASKEW'S WHO OBSERVED THEIR GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY JAN. 11TH WITH AN OPEN HOUSE AT THE METHODIST CHURCH AT FAIRBURY. THEY THANKED THE CLUB FOR THE LOVELY GIFT AND THE CARDS THEY RECEIVED.

A FAREWELL GIFT WAS GIVEN TO THE VERNE SANDERS FAMILY.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE THE LUNCH BY THE LADIES AND ENTERTAINMENT BY THE MEN. THE COMM. FOR THE MONTH WILL HEAD EACH COMMITTEE.

THE MEETING WAS CLOSED AND THE LADIES PROVIDED THE EVENING'S FUN WITH A VARIETY OF ACTS. A FULL EVENING WAS ENJOYED.

JOHN GOOLD PRES.
ELIZ. ASKEW SECT.

TREASURER'S REPORT

EXPENSES

balance bro't \$62.48
Dues 22.00
Pan Cake Sup. 69.00
Products sold 22.30

\$155.78

Anniversary Gift \$ 7.15
Farewell Gift 7.21
Locker 57.75
Groceries 12.78

\$ 84.89

\$155.78
84.89

\$ 70.89 Bal. on hand

February 1959

ABC HOLDS FEBRUARY MEETING 1959

THE AVOCADO BETTERMENT CLUB MET AT THE LODEMIA HALL ON SATURDAY FEBRUARY 21st AT 6:30 P.M. FOR A CHILI SUPPER PREPARED BY THE LADIES OF THE CLUB. AFTER A SUPPER OF CHILI, RELISHES, PIE, AND COFFEE. THE BUSINESS MEET - was conducted by president JOHN GOOLD. THE SECRETARY READ THE MINUTES AND REPORTED A BALANCE OF \$70.89.

AT THE NEXT MEETING THE ROLL CALL WILL BE A CHECK UP COMPLETED INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS FOR THE PAST YEAR. THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE WHO ARE TO REPORT AT THE NEXT MEETING ARE VERNON STEPHENS, CECIL AHLSTROM AND MRS. LESLIE MIES. THE TOUR COMMITTEE REPORTED THE COLD WEATHER HAD SLOWED UP THEIR PLANS FOR THE ANNUAL TOUR BUT WOULD ^{HAVE} PLANS READY SOON. MILTON HARMS ANNOUNCED THE ANNUAL 4H FAMILY PARTY WOULD BE MARCH 9 AT THE HIGH SCHOOL INSTEAD OF MARCH 23 AS PLANNED.

MR. AND MRS. LOREN KNAPP IS RETIRING FARM ADVISOR AND HIS WIFE WERE WELCOMED AS GUESTS AND CONGRATULATIONS OF THE CLUB WERE EXTENDED TO THEM.

KNAPP IS RETIRING HIS POSITION TO BEGIN FARMING MARCH 1ST.

THE MEN WHO WERE CHARGE OF THE PROGRAM INTRODUCED "MUSH THE MAGICIAN" REIS WHO ENTERTAINED YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE WITH HIS SLIGHT OF HAND

AND HIS MUSICAL SELECTIONS AT THE PIANO..

JOHN GOOLD PRESIDENT

ELIZABETH ASKEW SECT. AND TREASURER

TREASURER'S REPORT

\$70.89
 .18

\$70.71
 4.00 dues

\$74.71 balance on hand

A.B.C. 1959-1960

	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
Cecil Ahlstrom ^{Pd.}	4	3	3	1		3			3	2		
Eldon Askew ^{Pd.}	2	1	4	4			3		3	4		
Walter Askew ^{Pd.}		1	2	2					2	2		
Richard Attchevay												
Kenn Bressner ^{Pd.}	6		5	6				5	5	5		
Kenneth Bressner ^{Pd.}	5	5	5	5				3	4	4		
Jesse Brickley ^{Pd.}	2	2	2	1		1		2	2	2		
Darwin Freed ^{Pd.}	2	2	2	2		2	2	2	2	2		
William Freed ^{Pd.}	4	5	5	5		2	5	5	5	5		
William Fuisly ^{Pd.}			5	5					5	4		
Howard Fugate ^{Pd.}	5	4	4	6		3	2	3	4	2		
Cora Gould ^{Pd.}		1						1	1			
James Gould ^{Pd.}		7	6			5		1	4			
Ida Gould ^{Pd.}							1	2	1	1		
John Gould ^{Pd.}	5	5		5				5	4	7		
Don Fugate ^{Pd.}									5			
Milton Harnes ^{Pd.}	2	2	2	2		2		2	2	2		
Bill Hindred ^{Pd.}						4	5		5			
Charles Maley ^{Pd.}	5	5							5			
Melvin Metz ^{Pd.}						3						
Kenneth Metz ^{Pd.}	3							4		7		
Ernest Mies ^{Pd.}	4	5	5	5			5	5	5	7		
Leslie Mies ^{Pd.}	3	3	3	3			3	2	3	3		
Lester Perkins ^{Pd.}	4	2	2	2				2		5		

March 1959

MARCH MEETING OF THE A.B.C.

THE MARCH MEETING OF THE A.B.C. WAS HELD SATURDAY THE 21ST. AT THE HALL.

PRESIDENT JOHN GOOLD CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER BY HAVING PROJECT ROLL-CALL.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING READ AND APPROVED. THE TREASURER'S REPORT WAS \$4.71 balance ON HAND. WE LACK TWO DUES TO HAVE OUR YEAR PAID UP.

THE SECRETARY REPORTED SHE HAD SENT MRS. GLENN BRESSNER A CARD AT THE HOSPITAL. A CARD WAS SENT TO RICHARD ATTEBERRY WHO HAS BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL ALSO.

ELMER WINK REPORTED THAT DUE TO WEATHER AND ILLNESSES OUR TOUR WOULD HAVE TO BE LATER IN THE SUMMER.

PRESIDENT JOHN GOOLD REMINDED US THAT A SCHOOL ELECTION WILL BE HELD SOON AND THAT IT WAS A PRIVILEGE AND OUR DUTY TO VOTE AT THIS ELECTION.

THE PRESIDENT CALLED FOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE TO NAME THE CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE FOR THE COMING YEAR.

VERNON STEPHENS ANNOUNCED THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES.

PRESIDENT-----WILLIAM FREED

VICE PRESIDENT-----LESTER PERKINS

SECRETARY-----HELEN FUGATE
& TREASURER

NO OTHER NOMINATIONS WERE PRESENTED; SO IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED BY VERNON STEPHENS AND MARY ANN ULFERS THAT THE SECRETARY CAST AN UNANIMOUS BALLOT, ELECTING THE OFFICERS ON THE SLATE. THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

AT THE NEXT MEETING IN APRIL THE NEW OFFICERS WILL PRESIDE.

THE PRESIDENT THEN TURNED THE MEETING OVER TO THE ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE, WARREN ULFERS PRESENTED MRS. LUCILLE MARSHALL AND MRS. MARGUERITE NUSSBAUM WHO ENTERTAINED US BY SHOWING COLORED SLIDES AND TELLING OF THEIR INTERESTING EUROPEAN TRIP. THEY DISPLAYED SOME OF THE THINGS THEY BROUGHT BACK WITH THEM. THEY ANSWERED MANY QUESTIONS PUT TO THEM BY THE AUDIENCE. IT WAS AN ENJOYABLE EVENING.

THE LUNCH COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF MR. AND MRS. VERNON STEPHENS AND MRS. AND MRS. HARLEY ASPER AND MR. WAGON SELLER SERVED SANDWICHES AND COOKIES

April 1959

APRIL

The April meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club was held at Lodemia hall with 82 members and guests present. The Bank personell were gracious hosts for the 5th anniversary evening. The minutes of the March meeting were read and approved. The treasurer reported the balance to be \$63.71.

A motion was made by Mary Mies and seconded by Hannah Ahlstrom that a post card printer be purchases for the use of the secretary. The motion was carried.

President Bill Freed gave a short talk on our 5th anniversary and the value of the club. He gave an invitation to new members in general.

Kenneth Bressner was appointed project chairman and Hannah Ahlstrom as reporter by the President.

The names of members of the group were shook up and Darwin Freed's name was drawn for the annual work day.

The President commended the young people of the group active in 4-H and F.F.A. organizations as officers and award winners.

Suggestions for the new year's program were read and the committees were appointed. The May meeting will be a chicken barbecue.

Mrs. Brickey thanked the group for the cards and good wishes during her illness.

John Gerber spoke to the group concerning the bank consolidation.

The rest of the evening was spent with games, relays, and dancing before the group enjoyed lunch served by the hosts -- ham, cheese, potato chips, pop, coffee, ect.

Bal. \$63.71
dues 26.00
\$89.71
- 1.50 post cards
\$88.21

Bill Freed, Pres.

Helen Fugate, Sec.

May 1959

MAY

The May meeting of A.B.C. was held at Lodemia Hall with a chicken barbecue and covered dish supper at 6:30 with over one hundred people present.

The minutes were read and approved of the last meeting. There was a balance of \$88.21 in the treasury.

There was a motion to pay \$14.15 to Mary Mies for the post card printer which she had purchased for the group. The motion was carried. There was a suggestion that we send a thank you to Steidingers for the piano which they gave to the hall.

The group also expressed a big "thanks" to Lodemia Feed and Grain for their generous donation of the chicken barbecue.

Next month's committee was read. Project reports are to be given as roll call next month.

Dues were paid by eight members during the month.

A film was shown on vacations in Bermuda.

bal.	\$88.21	
dues	18.00	
	<u>106.21</u>	
	-41.15	disbursements
	<u>\$92.06</u>	

Bill Freed, Pres.

Helen Fugate, Sec.

June 1959

JUNE

The June meeting of A.B.C. was held at the hall on June 20th with 84 persons present. The minutes of the May meeting were read and approved. The treasury showed a balance of \$92.06.

Mary Mies announced a coffee hour to be held at the hall from 8:30 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. on June 24th as a benefit for the Livingston County blood bank. Everyone was urged to come.

Mrs. Wink made a motion that A.B.C. buy the coffee, sugar, cream, ect. for the coffee hour. The motion was seconded and carried.

Bill Freed reported on plans for work day. Work day will be next Thursday, June 25th starting at 8:00 A.M. tearing down the house on the farm Bill purchased. The ladies will bring pot luck dinner to the hall at noon. The secretary is to send cards to those who are not here.

The program committee presented Dr. Goddis of Pontiac who gave a very interesting talk on Lincoln illustrated by colored slides. He made the life of Lincoln interesting to the children as well as the adults.

The committee for the evening was the Eldon Askews, Walter Retters, and Gene Smallwoods. They prepared ham, potato chips, cheese dips, pickles, etc. for the group and everyone chipped in for the cost.

Mr. Wagonseller, Bill Frisby, C.E. Wink paid their dues.

Bill Freed, Pres.

Helen Fugate, Sec.

Ball \$92.06
Rec. 27.00
dues 6.00

125.06
42.21

Bal. 82.85

Disbursements
ham 21.81
Elizabeth 2.00
Dave's 12.40
Post cards 3.00
Mary Mies 3.00

42.21

July 1959

July

The July meeting of A.B.C. opened with roll call. Families answered with the number present in their families and their project for the coming year. Seventy-seven were present. The minutes of last meeting were read and approved. The treasurer reported a balance of \$82.85 in the treasury.

Mary Mies thanked the club for the donation to the Blood Bank coffee hour. She reported that \$90.00 was recieved.

Bill Freed thanked the club for the work accomplished on work day at his house.

The program committeee presented a musical program. Brenda Freed played two numbers on the piano. Colleen and Randy Bressner sang several numbers which were enjoyed very much. Then the "Lionettes", a women's barbershop quartet from Fairbury sang. They were Marie Fugate, Lola Mary Drew, Gloria Weimer, and June Mowery.

The evening closed with refreshments of ice cream, cookies, and cold drink.

Bill Freed, Pres.

Helen Fugate, Sec.

Bal.	\$82.85
	3.90 from sale of ham
	<u>13.00</u> collection
	99.75
	<u>12.90</u> expenses for meeting
Bal.	86.85

August 1959 – no meeting

September 1959

September

The Avoca Betterment Club met Sept. 19th at Lodemia for their regular meeting. Roll call showed 45 persons present. Treasurer's report was given but no minutes were read because of the small Aug. meeting. The secretary was instructed to send a get well card to Walter Askew who was in the hospital. There was no other business discussed and the program was turned over to John Wagonseller who gave us a very interesting ~~story~~ story of stamps and our postal system. He likened our lives to postage stamps and gave very good advice to every person. He said we should:

1. set a goal
2. stick to your job
3. be dependable
4. take your licking
5. be willing to be smeared
6. be great

The next part of the program was pictures taken during a recent trip to Missouri and the Ozarks. To conclude Mr. Wagonseller told us something about the Hinsdale Health Museum.

Refreshments of salads and crackers closed the evening.

Bill Freed, Pres.

Helen Fugate, Sec.

Bal. \$86.85
 6.19
Bal. \$80.66

Disbursements
 \$.19 get well card
 3.00 post cards
 3.00 watermelons to Mary
 Mies
 6.19

October 1959

October

The Avoca Betterment Club met Oct. 16th at Lodemia for their regular meeting. Roll call showed only 41 persons present, as the meeting came during the busy time of corn picking. The minutes of last meeting were read. Treasurer's report showed \$80.66 as a balance.

There was a discussion about cleaning the hall. A committee of Vernon Stephens Royce Carter, and Ernest Mies was appointed to make plans for the cleaning.

Two people paid their dues.

Farm Adviser, Paul Wilson, gave the program. He presented a paper on agricultural policies as related to Livingston County farmers.

The committee for next month was announced.

Bill Freed Pres.

Helen Fugate, Sec.

Bal. \$80.66

dues 4.00

84 .66

November 1959

November

A.B. C. met Nov. 21 at L^Udemia Hall for their regular meeting. After roll call, minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The treasurer reported \$84.66 in the treasury. A bill of \$2.85 for lunch for cleaning day was presented.

The committee for the Jan. minstrel show was appointed: Mrs. Leslie Mies and Mrs. Wm. Frisby will be co-chairmen. We will be hearing more about that program. The Dec. committee was announced.

The program was given by Mayor Brynes of Pontiac. He showed pictures and talked of their 3 month trip to Europe. It was especially interesting to our group in that there were many pictures of country side and farms of many countries.

Bill Freed, Pres.

Helen Fugate, Sec.

Bal.	\$84.66
dues	<u>2.00</u>
	86.66
	<u>3.50</u>
	83.16

Disbursements	
Post cards	\$1.50
Ollie	<u>2.00</u>
	3.50

December 1959

December

The December meeting of A.B.C. brought forth a fine crowd of 98 people to hear the fine program presented by children of the group. Mrs. Aldine Carter, Mrs. Maude Brickey, Mrs. Catherine Frisby arranged the program of songs, pieces, and exercises. Bill Mies was announcer.

Preceding the program a short business meeting was held. Minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer's report was given following roll call. The Ernie Mies family was added to the program committee for the Jan. meeting. There will be a minstrel show following the annual pancake and sausage supper.

Bill Freed, Pres.

Helen Fugate, Sec.

bal.	\$83.16
dues	<u>4.00</u>
	87.16

January 1960

January

The annual pancake and sausage supper for A.B.C. and friends was held Jan 16th. The men cooks did a fine job. Roll call showed around 100 persons present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and treasurer's report given. Bill thanked the cooks for the evening and asked for discussion on new business. He appointed a nominating committee of: John Goold, Milton Harms, and Elizabeth Askew. They will report at the Feb. meeting.

The program for the evening began with group singing led by Mrs. Lorene Wink and Mrs. Clara Mies at the piano. A minstrel show followed with about a dozen "negro" ladies taking part.

Bill Freed, Pres.

Helen Fugate, Sec.

Bal.	# 87.16
collection for	
supper	68.50
food sold	8.95
dues	<u>2.00</u>

166.61

-65.49

Bal.	# 101.12
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Disbursements	
Groceries (for supper)	\$16.44
Locker for sausage	41.40
Zimmermans(abbestos	
paper)	1.55
Clara Mies (minstrel	
expense)	1.80
Christmas program exp.	
Mary Mies	1.35
Aldine Carter	1.45
Post cards	<u>1.50</u>

65.49

February 1960

February

The regular meeting of A.B.C. was held at the hall. Since the secretary was not present, there was no roll call, minutes, or treasurer report given.

Election of officers for next year was held. Elected were
Lester Perkins, President

Ernest Mies, Vice President

Virginia Bressner, Secretary-Treasurer

Mrs. Dargan, of Pontiac, gave a very interesting talk on her trip to Portica Rico and other islands. Her word descriptions were as interesting and vivid as would have been pictures of her travels.

Refreshments for the evening were jello salads and doughnuts.

Bill Freed, Pres.

Helen Fugate, Sec.

Bal.	\$101.12
Dues	<u>2.00</u>
	103.12
post	<u>1.50</u>
cards	
	101.62

		A.B.C. 1960-1961												
		Mar.	Apr.	MAY	June	July	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.		
Cecil Ahlstrom	R ³ Pd	2	a	2	4	a	a	2	2	2	2	2		
Eldon Askew	R ³ Pd													
Eldon Askew	R ³ Pd	3	3	a	3	3	a	3	a	3	3	2		
Walter Askew	R ³ Pd	a	2	a	2	1	a	2	a	2	2	2		
Harley Asper		a	a	a	a	1	a	a	a	a	2	a		
Glenn Bressner	Pd	4	4	5	5	3	4	5	3	4	5	5		
Kenneth Bressner	Pd	5	a	1	a	a	2	5	a	a	4	4		
Jesse Brickey	Pd	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
Darwin Freed	Pd	a	2	2	2	2	1	2	a	2	2	2		
William Freed	Pd	4	5	a	5	5	6	5	a	6	3	6		
William Frisby	Pd	a	a	5	a	4	5	5	a	1	5	5		
Glyde Fritts	Pd	a	a	4	a	a	4	a	a	a	a	a		
Royce Carter	Pd	a	4	a	4	4	a	a	3	4	3	4		
Cora Goold	R ³ Pd	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a		
James Goold	Pd	a	a	a	a	a	5	7	a	a	a	a		
Ida Goold	Pd	a	a	1	a	a	1	3	a	a	1	a		
John Goold	R ³ Pd	a	a	a	a	a	5	2	a	a	5	a		
Howard Fugate	R ³ Pd	2	a	2	a	3	3	a	2	a	3	a		
Dan Fugate	R ³ Pd	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a		
Milton Harms	Pd	2	2	2	2	a	2	2	2	3	2	2		
Robert Link	Pd	a	a	a	a	a	4	a	a	a	a	3		
Bill Kindred	Pd	a	a	a	a	1	4	a	a	a	a	a		
Charles Mailey	Pd	a	a	a	a	a	a	5	a	6	2	3		
Delvin Metz	R ³ Pd	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	2	a	a	a		
Kenneth Metz	R ³ Pd	a	a	a	a	a	a	4	4	a	a	a		
Ernest Mies	R ³ Pd	4	5	a	5	a	4	5	a	5	5	3		
Leslie Mies	R ³ Pd	a	2	a	4	a	a	4	2	3	3	2		
Lester Perkins	Pd	2	2	2	1	a	a	2	a	2	2	2		
Walter Retter	Pd	a	3	a	a	a	a	4	a	a	4	4		
Vern Sanders	Pd	a	a	a	4	a	a	4	a	a	4	4		
Gene Smallwood	Pd	a	a	2	a	a	a	5	a	2	3	a		

*****COMMITTEES 1960-1961*****

MARCH

Lester Perkins
Ernest Mies
Glenn Bressner

APRIL

Eldon Askew
Walter Askew
William Freed

MAY

Eugene Smallwood
Jesse Brickey
Darwin Freed

JUNE

Vern Sanders
Milton Harms
~~Kenneth Bressner~~
Lynn Wessels

JULY

Cloyd Wilson
Royce Carter
Harley Asper

AUGUST

C. E. Wink
Dan Fugate
John Goold

SEPTEMBER

Bill Kindred
James Goold
Clyde Fritts

OCTOBER

Charles Maley

Ida Goold

~~Milton Harms~~ *Kenne*

NOVEMBER

Howard Fugate

Melvin Metz

Kenneth Metz

DECEMBER

Leslie Mies

Cecil Ahlstrom

William Frisby

Warren Ernst

JANUARY

Vernon Stephens

Cora Goold

Walter Retter

FEBRUARY

Warren Ulfers

Robert Link

John Wagenseller

Family Projects for 1960-1961

Cecil Ahlstrom - Repair Roof completed
Eldon Askew - Build Fence
Walter Askew - Mow Weeds
Blenn Bressner - Finish painting
Kenneth Bressner - Filled two ceilings
Jesse Brickey - Mow Weeds
Darwin Freed - Build Fence
William Freed - Build Fence
William Frisby -
Howard Fugate -
Cora Goold -
James Goold -
Ida Goold -
John Goold -
Dan Fugate -
Milton Harms - Keep public happy.
Bill Kindred -
Charles Maley -
Melvin Metz -
Kenneth Metz -
Ernest Mies - Paint Buildings
Leslie Mies - Shed Tear down
Lester Perking - Pump House overpump.
Walter Retter -
Vern Sanders - paint new house
Gene Smallwood
Vernon Stephens - Tear down shed
Warren Ulfers
Cloyd Wilson - paint house

March 1960

MARCH

The Avoca Betterment Club met at the Lodemie Town Hall on the evening of Mar. 19, 1960. The new President, Lester Perkins, opened the meeting with only 37 present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was given with \$101.62 on hand. Those having a perfect attendance for the last year were the Darwin and William Freeds, Howard Fugate and Vernon Stephens families. Helen Fugate suggested it would be nice for the club to help sponsor Donald Smallwood on his trip. A motion was made by Mrs. Ernest to give as we would expect a program from him on his return. This was seconded and carried. Cecil Ahlstrom made a motion to give \$20.00 toward his trip. This was seconded and carried.

Dues for 1960 were paid by Cecil Ahlstrom, [REDACTED], Glenn Bressner, Jesse Brickey, William Freed, Milton Harms, Ernest Mies, Lester Perkins, Vernon Stephens, and John Wagenseller.

The entertainment committee showed some pictures that were enjoyed by all. The committee for the April meeting are Eldon and Walter Askew's and William Freed families.

The committee served lunch of sandwiches, potato chips, relishes, cocoa and coffee.

Lester Perkins, President

Virginia Bressner, Secretary

TREASURER REPORT

Bal. Card	\$101.62
9 Dues	18.00
	<u>\$119.62</u>
Less Exp.	21.50
Total	<u>\$ 98.12</u>

EXPENSES:

Postcards	\$1.50
Funds for Donald Smallwood trip	20.00
	<u>\$21.50</u>

April 1960

APRIL

The Avoca Betterment Club met at the Lodesia Town Hall on the evening of April 23, 1960. A short business meeting was conducted by the president. There being only 50 people present. The treasurers report was given with a balance of \$98.12 on hand. Susan Ernst was appointed by the president, as reporter. Milton Harms announced that the 4-H club would be postponed for one week. There being no other business the meeting was turned over to the entertainment committee.

Mrs. Hamilton gave a very interesting talk of her recent trip to Old Mexico. Also slide pictures of the LaborDay Pageant in New Glarus, Wisconsin were shown by John Wagenseller. Everyone enjoyed the both of them.

Dues were paid by Walter Retter, Leslie Mies, and Walter Askew families.

The committee for the May meeting will be Eugene Smallwood, Darwin Freed, Jess Brickey Families.

The committee served sandwiches and jello salad, coffee and Keel-Ade.

Lester Perkins, President

Virginia Bressner, Secretary

TREASURER REPORT:

Bal. Car'd	\$98.12
3 Dues	<u>6.00</u>
Bal. on hand	\$104.12

May 1960

MAY

The Avoca Betterment Club met at the Lodemia Hall on May 21, 1960. A short business meeting was conducted by the president. There being 41 present. The treasurers report was given with a balance of \$104.12 on hand. There was a discussion on sponsoring a young lady for the Queen contest in Forrest. It was voted to drop the subject. There being no other business the meeting was turned over to the entertainment committee.

Dale Albee showed pictures and talked on Dominican Republic when he was there teaching. It was very interesting to all.

Dues were paid by William Frisby. The committee for June meeting are Milton Harms, Vern Sanders and Lynn Wessels families.

The committee served sandwiches and cookies, coffee and kool-ade.

Lester Perkins, President

Virginia Bressner, Secetary

TREASURER REPORT:

Bal. Car'd	\$104.12
1 Dues	2.00
	<u>\$106.12</u>
Less	
Postal Cards	<u>1.50</u>
Bal. on hand	\$104.62

June 1960

JUNE

The Avoca Betterment Club met at the Lodemia Hall on June 18, 1960. The meeting was conducted by the president. There was a nice crowd with about 60 present. Roll call was answered with their projects for the year. The treasurer report was given with a balance of \$104.62 on hand. The President nominated a committee to decide on where to go on a trip, composed of William Freed, Ernest Mies and Vernon Stephens. Warren Ernst name was drawn for work day. There being no other business Vern Sanders introduced a very interesting speaker, Rev. Ross Bracewell, his theme "Apples from Marble Orchards,"

Dues were paid by Clyde Wilson, Eldon Askew, Darwin Freed, Royce Carter and Lynn Wessels. The committee for the July meeting will be Cloyd Wilson, Royce Carter and Harley Asper families.

Lester Perkins, Pres.

Virginia Bressner, Sec.

TREASURER REPORT:

Bal. Car'd	\$104.62
5 Dues	- 10.00
Bal.	<u>\$114.62</u>
Less Esp.	6.68
Total	<u>\$107.94</u>

107.94

EXPENSES:

Postcards	\$1.50
Flowers for	
Wagenseller	
Funeral	5.18
	<u>\$ 6.68</u>

July 1960

JULY

The Aveca Betterment Club met at the Ledemia Hall on July 16, 1960. A very short business meeting was conducted by the acting President, Bill Freed. There being a small crowd of 37 present. The treasurers report was given with a balance of \$107.94 on hand. The program committee had a puppet play put on by several 4-H girls which they gave as their Share the Fun Act. Then the rest of the evening was spent playing bingo, with traveling prizes. This was enjoyed by both young and old. The committee for Aug. meeting will be John Goolds, Dan Fugates, and Bud Wink. A nice lunch was enjoyed by all.

Bill Freed, Acting President
Virginia Bressner, Sec.

Treasurers Report:

Bal. Car'd	\$107.94
Less Exp.	<u>3.00</u>
Total	\$104.94

EXPENSES

Postcards	\$3.00
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August 1960

No meeting.

September 1960

SEPTEMBER

The Above Betterment Club met at the Lbdemia Hall on Sept. 17, 1960. The meeting was called to order by the Vice-President, Ernie Mies. There as a large crowd attending. Ernie asked all to stand up then the men to go and sit with their wives which made the group look much better. The minutes of the last meeting were read followed by the treasurers report with a balance of \$104.94 on hand.

A motion was made and seconded to have a chicken barbecue supper with each family bringing two covered dishes and table service. This to be a regular meeting on Sunday night instead of Sat.

James Goold introduced Donald Johansen, who showed slides of North Africa which were enjoyed by all.

Dues were paid by James Goold, Ida Hoold, John Goold, Bill Kindred, Kenneth Bressner, Howard Fugate, Robert Link, Larry Fritts, and Bud Wink. The committee for Oct. meeting will be Kenneth Bressner, Ida Goold and Charles Maley with Mohn Goold and Lester Perkins to help.

The lunch consisted of cookies, cake and fruit jello and drink.

Ernie Mies, Vice-President

Virginia Bressner, Sec.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Bal. Car'd	\$104.94
9 Dues Paid	<u>18.00</u>
Bal.	\$122.94
Less Exp.	<u>1.63</u>
Total	\$121.31

EXPENSES

Stencils	\$1.63
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October 1960

OCTOBER

The Avoca Betterment Club met at the Lodemia Hall Oct. 16, 1960. There being barbecue chicken supper at 6:30. It was very delicious and a vote of thanks given to those preparing it. We had a very nice crowd attending. The meeting was called to order by the Pres. Lester Perkins. The minutes of the last meeting were read followed by the treasurers report with a balance of \$121.31 on hand.

Mrs. Ann Smallwood introduced Rhoda Campbell, an Ifyee of Scotland, which was spending a few days with them. She gave a very interesting talk on Scotland. Mrs. Kenneth Bressner introduced "The Bud Thompsons" and they showed slides on places they vacationed in the West.

Dues were paid by Kenneth Metz, Charles Maley and Vern Sanders. The collection taken amounted to \$27.00.

The committee for Nov. will be Howard Fugate and Melvin Metz.
and Kenneth Metz.

Lester Perkins, Pres.

Virginia Bressner. Sec.

TREASURERS REPORT

Bal. Car'd	\$121.31
3 Dues Paid	6.00
Collection from supper	<u>27.00</u>
	\$154.31
Less Exp.	<u>71.00</u>
Bal.	\$ 83.31

EXPENSES

Lester Perkins, sauce & chickens	\$62.00
Kenneth Bressner, charcoal	7.50
Postal Cards	<u>1.50</u>
Total	\$71.00

November 1960

NOVEMBER

A.B.C. met Nov. 19, at the Lodemia Hall for their regular meeting. Milton Harms, acting Pres., called the meeting to order. After roll call, minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The treasurer reported \$83.31 in the treasury.

Melvin Metz paid his dues.

The program was given by Ed Kramer. He showed pictures and talked of their trip to Europe.

The December committee was announced consisting of Leslie Mies, Cecil Ahlstrom, William Frisby and Warren Ernst.

Milton Harms, Acting Pres.

Virginia Bressner, Sec.

TREASURER REPORT

Bal. Car'd	\$83.31
1 Dues Paid	<u>2.00</u>
Total	\$85.31

December 1960

DECEMBER

A. B. C. Club met at the Lodemia Hall for their regular meeting. The meeting was called to order by the President. After roll call, with 55 present, minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer reported \$85.31 in the treasury. A motion was made to pay the hall rent for the past year, by Vernon Stephens and seconded by Cecil Ahlstrom. The month of Jan. was the time for pancake supper there being some discussion on this. It was announced that the bank wanted to furnish lunch for the Feb. meeting. There being no other business the rest of the evening was turned over to the entertainment committee. The children presented the program followed with traveling bingo which everyone enjoyed. A delicious lunch was served.

The January committee was announced consisting of Vernon Stephens, Cora Goold and Walter Retters.

Lester Perkins, Pres.

Virginia Bressner, Sec.

TREASURER REPORT

Bal. Car'd	\$85.31
Less Exp.	<u>61.50</u>
Bal.	\$23.81

EXPENSES

Postal Cards	\$ 1.50
Hall Rent	<u>60.00</u>
Total Exp/	\$61.50

January 1961

JANUARY

A. B. C. Club met at the Lodemia Hall for their annual pancake and sausage supper on Jan. 21st. The men did a fine job as cooks. Roll Call showed around 100 present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and the treasure's report given with a balance on hand of \$23.81. Lester announced that the bank members wanted to furnish the lunch for the next meeting. He also appointed a nominating committee of Bill Freed, Helen Fugate and himself. They will report at the Feb. meeting.

The program for the evening was furnished by Donald Smallwood, showing his pictures and describing the country of Ireland.

Lester Perkins, Pres.

Virginia Bressner, Sec.

TREASURER REPORT

Bal. Car'd	\$23.81
Rec'd from supper & sausage	74.19
Rec'd from items returned	13.70
1 Dues	2.00
	<u>\$113.70</u>
Less Exp.	<u>75.53</u>
Bal.	\$ 38.17

EXPENSES

Lester Perkins Sausage & etc.	\$74.03
Postal Cards	<u>1.50</u>
Total Exp.	\$75.53

February 1961

FEBUARY

The Avoca Betterment Club met at the Lodemia Hall on the evening of Feb. 8, 1961. President called the meeting to order with about 75 and 4 guests present. Roll Call was answered with their yearly projects. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The treasurers report was given with Bal. on hand of \$38.17. Bill Freed reported the club would tour Honnegers on Mar. 2, meet at Honneger House at 9:30 for rolls and coffee. After the tour would be a chicken dinner.

Kenneth Bressner announced that Zimmermans Hardware furnished the gas for the pancake supper.

The nominating committee gave their report of new officers for the coming year, as follows: Pres. William Frisby, Vice Pres. Milton Harms, Sec. Mrs. Vernon Stephens. John Wagenseller made the motion to accept these new officers and Warren Ernst seconded the motion.

Those attending every meeting for the past year were Jesse Brickeys and Glenn Bressners. Milton Harms attended all but one meeting.

John Wagenseller showed his pictures that they took while on their trip to Hawaii which were very interesting.

George Jackson, Bloomington, from the Farmers Home Administration gave an interesting talk on borrowing money.

The bank members furnished a very delicious lunch.

Virginia Bressner, Pres.

Virginia Bressner. Sec.

TREASURERS REPORT

Bal. \$38.17

	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Total
Cecil Ahlstrom ^{Rt-3} pd	2	1	1	a	4		1	1			a	2a	
Eldon Askeu ^{R-3} pd	a	a	2	a	a		3	a			3	3	2
Walter Askeu ^{R-1} pd	a	a	2	a	a		2	a			a	a	a
Harley Askeu	a	a	a	a	a		a	a			a	a	
Glenn Bressner pd	a	2	3	a	4		4	2			2	3	4
Kenneth Bressner pd	5	a	a	a	3		2	a			2	3	a
Jesse Buckley pd	a	2	2	1	2		2	a			a	a	a
Clawen Fried pd	a	2	a	2	2		2	a			2	2	a
William Fried pd	4	6	5	a	5		3	4			6	5	6
William Freshy pd	5	5	5	5	5		5	3			5	5	2
Royce Carter pd	a	4	a	a	a		4	4			a	3	a
Cora Gould ^{R2} pd	a	a	a	a	a		a	a			a	a	a
James Gould pd	a	2	a	a	a		4	1			5	a	a
Ida Gould pd	a	2	a	a	a		1	a			a	a	a
John Gould pd	a	3	a	a	3		5	a			a	3	a
Howard Fugate pd	3	2	a	a	2		3	a			a	a	a
Melton Harris pd.	2	2	a	2	2		4	1			2	2	2
Robert Link ^{R4} pd	a	a	5	a	a		a	a			a	a	3
Bill Kindred pd	a	a	4	a	a		a	a			a	a	
Charles Moley pd	a	a	a	a	a		2	a			6	2	a
Kenneth Moley pd	a	a	4	a	a		a	a			a	a	
Ernest Mies ^{R3} pd	4	4	a	3	a		5	1			a	4	a
Leslie Mies pd	a	3	a	2	a		3	3			a	a	a
Lester Gerkin pd	a	a	a	2	a		2	2			a	3	a
Walter Retter pd	a	3	a	a	a		a	2			4	3	a
Vern Souders ^{Zone 1}	a	3	a	a	a		4	a			a	4	a
Gene Smallwood	a	a	a	a	a		a	a			a	2	3

Program Suggestions

March - Frushy - Stephens - Harms -
 April - H Fugate - L Wessels - Ida Gould
 May - R Metz - B Kunder - B. Link
 June - ^{Cloyd Wilson} H Bressner - ^{E. Mies} J. Buckley -
 July - W Ernst - ^{Kenney Bressner} E Mies - C Ahlstrom -
 Aug - no meeting
 Sept - John Gould - C. Gould - C Maley -
 Oct - L Mies - W Retter - Jan Gould.
 Nov - R Fried - H Asper - W. Askeu
 Dec - B. Fried - E. Askeu - ^{Kenney Bressner} C. Wilson
 Jan - R Carter - C Wink - V Sanders - Wagenseller.
 Feb - Bank Ford - L Perkins - V Smallwood - W. Alfes.
 Treas - 38.17 - 1.50 for cards Bal - \$36.67
 Reporter - ^{Bernice} Kenneth Bressner Family.

Tour Committee - Kenneth Bressner. E Askeu -
 Howard Fugate.

P Program Suggestions.

Civil Defense
 First Aid - Helen Woods or H. Joda.
 Coronor - Von Jaslin.
 Safety - Stuart Grant.
 Prison - Portrai or Dwight.
 Farm Law - Holgin, Traub or Hanley.
 Meat cutting team - Cloyd Wilson.

March 1961

March

The Avoca Betterment Club met March 18 at the Loderia hall with 33 present. The meeting was called to order by Pres Wm Fushy.

Roll was called by answering the number present from each family. The minutes were read and approved. Tom Nies led the group to the pledge of the flag. Bill Freed introduced the Ig teacher Mr Moore & his wife. Warren Ernst said he had girl scout cookies for sale.

Randy Bressner led the group for some group singing accompanied by Clara Nies. Colleen Bressner and Ellen Rae Fugate played 2 duets. Then Mr Elmer Myers from Lexington talked on insects and fertilizers and on the care of lawns, trees and crops. Sandwiches, pie and coffee was enjoyed by everyone present.

Bill Fushy Pres
Olene Stephens Sec.

Treas.
Feb \$38.17
1.50 for cards
36.67
6.00 for dues
\$42.67

42.67
1.50 for cards April 6
\$41.17

April 1961

April 15 - 1961

The Avoca Betterment Club met at the
Lodema hall April 15, 1961.

Roll was called with 63 present.

The pledge to the flag was led by
Richard Sanders. Minutes were read and
approved. Treasures reported \$41.17 in the
treasure.

Group singing was led by Helen Fugate,
Brenda Fred & Cheryl Stephen accompanied by
Clem Mae.

Being no old business or new business
the meeting was turned over to the program
committee.

Spud Schelph showed a film of the 500 mile
race held at Indianapolis in 1960 which
was enjoyed by all. Then Paul Wilson
showed some slides and gave a short talk
on trees.

Lunch of fruit salad and cupcakes were
served by the Comm.

Treas. \$68.17 -

3.00 for cart

\$ 65.17

Bill Fushy - Pres.
Alene Stephen - Sec.

May 1961

May 1961

The ABC Club met Sat evening May 20 at Lodenma Hall.

Roll call was answered by some of the members giving their projects for the year. The minutes were read and approved.

Treasurer reported \$65.17 in Treas.

Bill Link led the group with the pledge to the flag.

The President announced that Mrs Freed was in hosp that it would be nice for members to remember with cards.

Bernie Bressner talked to Pres. Fusby about the Club helping to get an exchange student over here from another country and that Bernie is attending meeting concerning this matter.

Cloyd Wilson name was drawn for work day for 1961.

Five paid dues.

Mush Reis entertained the group with his magic tricks which was enjoyed by all.

Sandwiches, cookies & cup cakes ^{+ drinks} were served for lunch.

Treas. 65.17 -
10.00 -

75.17.

Bill Fusby Pres.
Olue Stephen. Sec.

June 1961

June 1961

The June meeting of the A.B.C. Club was held at the Loderia Hall on Saturday evening, June 17 with 21 members and 6 guests in attendance.

Mary Mies presented a new plastic flag to the club and Carol Mies led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

The minutes of the May meeting were read and approved. The Treasury contains \$75.17.

Members were glad to have Mrs. Viola Freed with them. She was in the hospital at May meeting time.

Mary Mies announced that there would be free adult swimming on the coming Wed. nite from 7:30-9:00.

Cloyd Wilson introduced Sheriff Joe Alltop.

Sheriff Alltop gave a short history of law enforcement and early government in Livingston county. He discussed the duties of the sheriff and those who work out of his office. In addition to Sheriff Alltop - there are 4 deputies, 2 nite and 2 day men. The deputies

July 1961

July 1961

The Avoca Betterment Club met July 16th at Loden's hall with 37 members and their families present. Club members gave their project report who hadn't already done so. It was suggested that the ABC Club participate in the free swim at the pool.

John Gould led the group in the pledge & the flag. The minutes were read and approved. August 1 was the tentative date set for work day at Cloyd Wilson.

Mrs Kenneth Bressner gave a report on the meetings to obtain a foreign exchange student through the American Field Service. We have \$77.15 in Treas.

Mrs Ahlstrom introduced Rev Richard Harrison who showed slides of the young people from Fairbury and Cheona Pres. Church on their go & see tour through Oklahoma.

The President announced the committees for Sept meeting The John Goulds Corn Gould and the Charles Malep.

Lunch was served by the Com.

Bill Fusby Pres

Olue Stephen Sec

August 1961

No meeting.

September 1961

September -

The Avoca Betterment Club held its monthly meeting September 16th at Loderma hall with a large crowd attending.

Roll was called and the minutes were read and approved. Ann Gould led the group in the pledge to the flag.

The president had the guests stand as he called their names.

The Oct. ~~month~~ committee were named as follows The Les Mies, Walter Rietter & Jim Gould families.

A motion was made and second that the club recognize Paul Wilson at the Oct. meeting with the following committee acting Mary Mies, John Gould & Bell Freed.

The program for the evening was Mr Werner Rehm from Switzerland who showed slides and talked about his country. He was staying at the Alfred Wessels home. Everyone enjoyed his program.

Then Mr Clem Steichen was introduced by John Gould. He talked on civil defense and stressed fallout shelter.

Lunch was served after the program.

Tues July - 77.15
46 blue
83.15

Bell Frushy Pres
Oliver Stephens Sec

October 1961

Oct Meeting

The Avoca Betterment Club held its monthly meeting Oct 28 at the Ademia hall with 35 members and guests present.

Roll was called and the minutes read.

Aun Mies led the group in the pledge to the flag. Being no old business.

The pres. asked how many present had been invited to the school breakfast.

Ship present had been invited and some had attended and made some remarks about it.

Mary Mies then asked Paul Wilson to come to the front at which time she presented him with a gift of meat.

Paul & his wife thanked the group and Paul said a few words.

Speaker for the evening was Mr William Harris from Pontiac who spoke on tax structure.

Lunch was served.

Bill Freshy Pres.

Oliver Stephen Sec.

Treas.

Sept - 83.15

2 dues 4.

87.15

expense

87.15

14.00 - Paul Wilson

73.15

73.15

November 1961

No Meeting.

December 1961

December Meeting.

The Avoca Betterment Club met at the Lockman hall Dec. 16 for its monthly meeting. Roll was called by the number present from each family. The minutes were read and approved. The Treas. reported \$13.15 in Treas.

Kevin Bresner led the group in the pledge to the flag.

There was no old business.

New business was a discussion period on discontinuing the ABC Club since so many have lost interest and do not attend many meetings. Tabled till January meeting.

A motion was made & second we pay Lester Perkins hall rent for one year.

The meeting was turned over to the program committee. The children presented the group with a Christmas program which consisted of various entertainment enjoyed by all present after which a nice lunch was served & all present.

Roll Wesley Pres
Olin Stephen Sec.

Treas. \$13.15 nov
4.00 dues

\$17.15

- 1.85 for treats for children

\$15.30

January 1962

January - 1962.

The Avoca Betterment held their Jan. meeting on Jan 22 at Loderia hall with a pancake and sausage supper that was put on by a group of the men. Roll call was called by number present at the supper. Several left after supper to attend the musical comedy at Fairbury school. Minutes were read and approved. Pamela Frushy led the group in the pledge to the Flag. Old business was some discussion on keeping the A B C club to continue. Not too much was said so decided to wait until time of election of ^{new} officers for the coming term. New business was to plan on having square dancing at the next meeting to see how it would work out, so it was moved and second to try it. Bill Frushy announced about our sick and thought it would be nice to remember them. They were Ida Gould, Mrs Ann Rether and the Mother of Leo & Ernest Mies. Mr & Mrs George Mowery, Mr & Mrs Curtis Weeks and a Grand daughter of Mr & Mrs Lester Perkins were guest for the evening. Our speaker for the evening from Chicago could not come so Mr John Wagenseller showed pictures on their trip last year of the Hawaiian Islands. They were very good and enjoyed by all. The hall rent of \$50.00 was paid to Lester Perkins.

1961-2 Projects

C. Ahlstrom — Paint

E. Ashew — ?

H. Ashew — ?

H. Asper —

L. Bressner — Horn teeth pulled

K. Bressner — Pull corn out of house ^{cement walk} + steps

J. P. Brickey — Paint

D. Freed — build fence

B. Freed — set out Evergreens

G. W. Frisby — take Sm. & Wis. — Paint Lynnt Poina

R. Carter —

Cora Gould —

James Gould —

Sda Gould —

J. R. Gould — build fence

H. Fugate — ? Paint farm bridge.

M. Hains — ?

B. Link — ?

B. Kindred — keep busy

C. Maly —

K. Metz — ?

E. Mies — Pour cement floor

L. Mies — Install automatic cattle waterer ^{cement}

L. Perkins — Paint board fence

W. Retter —

V. Sanders —

E. Smallwood —

February 1962

Min read & approved
Send J. Waggoner a get well Card from
Club.

Pres. brought up about dropping set.
min.

Vernon Stephens made it a motion A B C
Ceased to exist Bill Freed seconded
motion carried

It was brought up to have an ~~annual~~ ^{small}
Picnic motion June 27 4th Sec. of June
Seconded

Bill Freed general chairman of June
Vernon Stephens to help out.
motion carried

Mail out notices to members.

Cathryn made motion to leave money
Seconded by Anna Mae to 4-H Club.
\$20.00 Hall Rent

meeting adjourned

\$ 34.36
20.00

\$ 14.36
20
14

23
.04

(.92) for Cards

Members

28

[illegible]

Serving Committee 1962

March - Bank	April	May
E. Ashew	E. Mies	-
L. Wessels	Jim Gould	-
Wm. Freed	Vernon Stephens	-

June	July, PLAY DAY	Aug
-	John Gould	-
-	Wm. Frisby	-
-	L. Perkins	-
	W. Kelters	

Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
M. Harms	L. Mies	W. Ashew
D. Smallwood	K. Bressner	W. Alfors
B. Link	D. Freed	D. Bressner

Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Carlton	A. Ahlstrom	J. Bruckey
John Gould	C. Wink	W. Ernst
C. Maley	C. Wilson	J. Wagenseller
V. Sanders		

	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Total	Average
Paul Wilson	1	17	17	17	52	13
Bob Maurer	2	17	17	17	53	13.25
Hartzel Mung	2	17	17	17	53	13.25
Don Kramer	17	17	17	17	68	17
John Barber	2	17	17	17	53	13.25
Guests		3	5	2	10	2.5
Total Present	54	#5	31	3#	49	81 ⁷⁴
Treasure						

March 1962

March 17, 1962

The ABC Club met at the Lincoln School Saturday night March 17, 1962. Roll call was answered by members present from each family. There were 54 members present. The President welcomed all new members. The minutes were approved as read. A motion was made and seconded to hold our meetings the fourth Saturday night of the month instead of the third because school activities interfered on our regular meeting nights in the past. It was decided by the planning committee and brought up in front of the club to drop three summer month meetings. The President appointed Bill Frisby, Kenneth Bessner and Milton Harme to buy a record player for the club. Eric Mies' name was drawn for work day this year. The President announced the following members to be on the tour committee: Mary Mies, Mary Ann Wlfers and Haunsh Ahlstrom. He also announced Carolyn Frisby to serve on the Hospitality Committee. Milton Harme announced the 4-H Club were invited to a roller skating party March 23. Cecil Ahlstrom made a motion to pay the school janitor. Bill Frisby seconded the motion. The program Chairman introduced Mr. Frank Grogan from Clinton. He talked on Farm & Home Business management. After this the meeting was adjourned and refreshment were served by the Bank and enjoyed by all.

Eldon Lushen Pres.
Selma Freed Sec.

Treasure Report

The Treasure reports that \$22.00 were taken in for dues

Disbursements for this month were:

\$5.00 for flowers for Cora Gould's funeral
\$1.75 for Post cards and a get well ^{card} sent
to Mrs. Gould before she passed away -

\$3.00 to the school janitor

\$9.75 - Total Disb.

Leaving a Bal. of \$40.50

Committee to serve in July are to be
Ida Gould - Bill Frisby's - Lester Perkins
& Walter Retter's (Home made ice cream)

April 1962

April 28, 1962

The ABC Club met Saturday Night April 28, 1962 at the Rodemias town hall. Roll call was answered by number present from each family. There were 42 members and 3 guests present. The minutes were approved as read. The Treasurer's report was read and accepted. The President asked if the Tour Committee had a report to make. But, as yet they had no report to make. After the meeting was adjourned it was turned over to the program Committee. They in turn told us that Junior Wilson would talk to us about different cuts of meat. He demonstrated cutting and slicing of meat. Which was all very interesting. It was brought to the Secretary's attention that she forgot to mention in her report ^{Barlene Harris} new reporter for this year. Lunch was served by the Vernon Stephens, Ernie Wiers' and Jim Gould's -

Eldon Ashew Pres.
Delma Freed Sec.

The Treasure reports that \$6.00 was taken in for dues. This bringing a Balance of \$46.50 -

May, June, July 1962

No meetings for summer months.

August 1962

Aug. 19, 1962

"The H.B.C. Club Enjoy a Play Day"
A number of Avoca Betterment Club families and several other families outside of the club entertained foreign students in their homes over the weekend from Friday evening until Sunday afternoon. The group went Sunday to Camp Howard just north of the Lake of the Woods at Mahomet for a picnic dinner. There were 23 students in the group and 103 attended the picnic. Milton Harms gave the invocation after which everyone had their fill of a very delicious dinner. In the afternoon the younger group went swimming and boat riding at the Lake of the Woods. While the rest visited and enjoyed getting acquainted with the other students and all enjoyed the day very much. This group also went on a tour to the Honeygar Farms and to on Saturday. The students were from the countries of 2 - from Venezuela - 2 from Somalia Republic 1 - from Iran 1 - from Japan - 1 from China 2 from Nigeria - 2 from Pakistan - 6 from India and 6 from Egypt. Hosts for the foreign students were the John Gerber, Hartzell Munn, Harold Metz, John Wagendeller, William Frisby, Roy Melvin Dale Albee, Robert Yates, Alfred Wessels, Warren Alfors Milton Harms John Dault, Eldon Asken James Dault, Vernon Stephens, Royce Carter Howard Fugate Curtis Weeks Verne Saunders and William Freed families. Later in the afternoon the hostesses took their guests to their

September 1962

Tour September 7, 1962

Thirteen members of the HBC Club and two guests enjoyed a tour of the University of Illinois Farm and Home on Friday September 7, 1962

The group left Fairbury at 8:30 arriving in Champaign about 10:00 o'clock in time to inspect many projects of interest to both men and women.

September 22, 1962
The H.B.C. club met Saturday night
September 22 at the Loderia Hall.
Roll call was answered by number
present from each family. There were
31^{present}. The minutes were approved as
read. Milton Harms told the club
that he, Bill Frisby & Kenneth Bressner
purchased a record player for the club.
The cost being \$60.00. Cecil Ahlstrom gave
a report on the tour to Champaign.

There being no other business
the meeting was adjourned and
turned over to the Entertainment
Committee. Everyone enjoyed playing
bingo with everyone receiving a prize.
Lunch was then served by the
Milton Harms and Gene Shallwoods.

OK.

Eldon Lake Pres.
Delma Fred Sec.

The Treasure reports that \$6.00
was taken in for dues. This bringing
a Balance of \$49.50. The Club is
\$11.00 (\$11.00) in the red. The Secretary
Treasure has paid Kenneth Bressner \$49.00
on the record player owing him yet \$11.00

October 1962

October 1962

The A.B.C. Club met at the
Lodewia Hall, October 27, with 31
members and 5 guests present.
The meeting, conducted by the president
Eldon Asbew, opened with Roll call.
The minutes were read and
approved. The Treasurer report
was given and members who had
not paid their dues were asked
to do so. A money making project
was discussed but final decision
was left up to the November
Committee. There being no further
business the meeting was
adjourned.

The entertainment Committee
of Leshe Mes', Harum Fred's, and
Kenneth Bressner's, present Mr Reid
Lombaugh of Pontiac - Mr Lombaugh
had recently made a People to People
tour of Europe and principally
Russia - He told of his impressions
of the people of the different
cities of Russia, their life, work
and living conditions. He also
showed several pictures of his
trip and answered questions from
the audience.

Lunch of Pie & Coffee & ~~Cocoa~~
Koslaid was served by the Committee.
Eldon Asbew - Pres
Mary Mes - Secty. Protem

Treasurer - dues taken in - 8.00
on hand .53
Balance 8.53

November 1962

Nov. 24, 1962

The ABC Club met at the
Lodonia Hall, Sat night Nov. 24
with 47 members attending and
2 guests present. The President
Elden Asher asked the group to
please and have silent prayer in
memory of Marvin Fred. The
minutes of the last meeting were
read and approved. Elizabeth
announced if any one wanted to donate
a record they could do so. After the
meeting was adjourned a cake walk
was held. This being a great success.
Ida Gould donated 1.00 to the Treas.
for the cake walk. Twenty Eight
Dollars and Fifty Six cents was
taken in. Mrs Logan Wilson gave
an interesting talk and showed slides
about the adventures her son
George is having while he is in
the Peace Corps.

Lunch was served by the
Committee. Walter Asher, Warren
Vickers and the Glenn Bressner family.

Elden Asher Pres.
Helma Fred Sec.

Treas. reports	\$27.56	Taken in for cake walk.
Ida Gould	1.00	(Dist. 1.50 for Post cards)
	28.56	
Balance in Treasure	\$31.58	

December 1962

Dec. 22, 1962

The F.B.C. Club met at the Rademier Hall Saturday night Dec. 22 with 74 members and 7 guests present. The meeting conducted by the President Eldon Askeew, opened with Roll call. The minutes were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was given and accepted. The President announced that Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Bricker were going to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary and were going to hold open house at the Methodist church. The President also announced that the pancake supper would be in Feb. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

The entertainment committee of Rayce Carter's John Gould's, Charles Maloy and Vern Sanders presented a Christmas Program. Girl Scouts of Patrol 1 troop 99 presented a short play and pantomime. Mr. Augustus Bonkura from ^{Chad} ~~Nigeria~~ who was visiting the Howard Hughes played the accordion and sang a couple of hymns in his native tongue. The rest of the program consisted of boys and girls in our own F.B.C. group, which made up a very entertaining evening. Group singing after the program was enjoyed by all. A lunch of Christmas cookies, fresh fruit, coffee and Kool-aid was served after the program.

Eldon Askeew Pres.
Helma Freed Sec.

\$31.58	Treas - dues taken in	\$6.00	
7.40 ^{Cards} gift	Disbursements	5.25	for gift Card ^{sent Bricker}
24.18	"	2.15	post cards
6.00 ^{dues}	Bal on hand	\$30.18	
30.18			

January 1963

Jan. 26, 1963

The H.B.O. Club met at the Rodemias Hall Saturday night Jan 26 - with 36 members and 2 guests present. The meeting conducted by the President Eldon Asbew opened with roll call. The minutes were read and approved. The Treasurer reported a Balance of \$30.18 on hand. This was approved and accepted. The President asked the Club if they would rather have a chili and oyster supper instead of pancakes and sausage. There was a vote of hands. The majority voted for chili and oysters. The President then announced the following Committees. Bill Frisby Chairman of oysters and Harvey Ehling Chairman of the Chili. Also Vernon Stephens and Burdette Jensen to help in these appointed Committees. This being all of the business. The meeting was adjourned and turned over to the entertainment Comm. Cecil Ekstrom's, C. E. Wink's and Cloyd Wilson's. Harris Wilson played a piano solo and then June Mowery gave a talk and showed slides on the Girl Scout Roundup held in Colorado, which was very colorful and interesting. She also ~~showed~~ showed her scrap book and passed around souvenirs which she had collected. Lunch was then served by the Committees.

Eldon Asbew Pres.
Helma Freed Sec.

"Press report."

\$11.00 paid to Kenneth Breaner for Record Player
Leaving a Bal. of \$19.18 -

Illus

2.00
\$21.18

February 1963

Feb. 23, 1963

The HBC Club met at the Lodgepole Hall Saturday night Feb. 23 for Chili and after supper. 50 members and 3 guests present. The meeting conducted by the President Eldon Askeew open with roll call. The minutes were read and approved. The Treasurer reported a balance of \$21.18 on hand.

Bil Freed announced that the Foreign Field Service are asking donations from various clubs in the community and she would like to know if the HBC Club would like to donate. This was tabled till the next meeting. Milton Farms announced to set 4-H children present to watch the change of date on cards that would be sent out by mail.

The President thanked the Committee for fixing the oysters and Chili. He then asked for the nominating Committee's report. The new officers for the coming year are as follows. Charles Maffey Pres. Ernie Mies Vice Pres. and Carolyn Frisby Sec. and Treas. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned and turned over to the entertainment comm. John Wagenseller showed pictures that he had taken on their trip to South America. He also gave an interesting talk along with showing of the pictures.

Treas Report.

Eldon Askeew Pres.
Bilma Freed Sec.

\$21.18 on hand

42.80 Taken in at the Chili + after Super

63.98

Avoca Betterment Club 1963-1964

Member	Mich. <i>Pd.</i>	Apr. <i>Pd.</i>	Picnic	Work Day	Tour	Nov.	Dec. <i>Pd.</i>	Jan.	Feb.	Mich. <i>Pd.</i>
Cecil Ahlstrom	2	1			1	2		4	3	
Eldon Askeew	2	1		2	3	2	2	3	2	<i>Pd.</i>
Glenn Bressner			5	3	3		2		3	<i>Pd.</i>
Kenneth Bressner				1	6	3	1			<i>Pd.</i>
Jesse Brickey						2	<i>Pd.</i>			
William Freed		5 <i>Pd.</i>	5	3	2		5	6	4	
William Frisby	5 <i>Pd.</i>	5	5	2	2	5	2		5	
Royce Carter	4 <i>Pd.</i>		4						2	
James Gould									3	<i>Pd.</i>
John Gould	1		4	2						<i>Pd.</i>
Ida Gould		<i>Pd.</i>				1			3	
Howard Fugate			2	2		2	1	1	1	<i>Pd.</i>
Milton Harms	2 <i>Pd.</i>	2	2	2		2		2	2	
Robert Link		3 <i>Pd.</i>								
Charley Maley	6 <i>Pd.</i>	6			1	6	6	6	6	
Ernest Mies	5 <i>Pd.</i>		5	1	2	3	2		3	
Leslie Mies	3 <i>Pd.</i>		4			2	2		3	
Lester Perkins	<i>Pd.</i>		2		2			2		
Walter Retter	<i>Pd.</i>					3		1	2	
Vernon Stephens		3 <i>Pd.</i>		2	2		3	3	3	
Warren Ulfers		<i>Pd.</i>							4	
Cloyd Wilson	2 <i>Pd.</i>	4		1	2	3			3	
C. E. Wink	2 <i>Pd.</i>	2	2			2			2	
John Wagenseiler	1 <i>Pd.</i>		1		2	1	1	1	2	
Lynn Wessels		6 <i>Pd.</i>							6	
Burdette Jensen		6 <i>Pd.</i>						6	6	
Harvey Ahring	3 <i>Pd.</i>				4	3	3	3		
National Bank										
Paul Wilson										
Guests	4	14	6	3	2			1	18	
Total	42	58	47	24	34	46	29	39	86	

March 1963

March 31, 1963

The Avoca Betterment Club met on Sunday evening, March 31, 1963 at 6:30. A beautiful pot-luck meal plus left over chili and oyster stew seemed to satisfy everyone's appetite.

Charles Maley called the meeting to order and asked Carol Mies to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Elizabeth Askew led group singing accompanied by Larine Wink.

The minutes of the February meeting were read and approved. Thirty-eight members and 4 guests representing thirteen families were present. The club enriched its treasury by \$24 as members answered roll call by paying their dues for 1963-1964.

The Treasurer's report was in the amount of \$47.26. A bill of \$14.50 for oysters was allowed and paid. Mention was made of these outstanding bills: the 1962-1963 hall rent and milk and butter to John Gould and Vernon Stephens for the oyster soup.

Under old business was the request from Field Service that had been tabled at the February meeting. Because the treasury is none too flush and because the club will be asked and will want to make a donation when Bill Fugate goes to Denmark; Ernie Mies moved that we donate \$5. The motion was seconded by Eldon and carried.

The shortage of money in the treasury was discussed and two

Treasury Report.

Bal. Mch. 31.
\$47.26

dues 24.00

\$71.26

Bill for
oysters 14.50

Bal. 56.76

Field

Service 5.00

\$51.76

cards.

projects were mentioned: a square dance and a slave auction. A motion was made by Bill Frisby and seconded by Clayd Wilson that a square dance be held in April. The motion carried.

Charles announced this committee for April: Milton Harms
Bill Freed
Bob Link
Lynn Wessels.

The name drawn for this year's work day was "Howard Fugate".

Charles asked Nola Wilson
Aldine Carter

and Virginia Bressner to serve on a tour committee.

A door prize for the children was won by Teresa Ahring.

Our president introduced his mother, our Livingston County Health nurse. Mrs. Frances Maley explained the program that is being carried on in our local school for the Educationally Mentally Handicapped. The Chatsworth, Forrest Strawn, and Fairbury-Cropsey schools have established a room this year.

The classroom is in the Cropsey school building. Mrs. Audrey Honigger is the teacher. Part of the expense is met by State Aid and the remainder is being shared by the three school systems.

Mrs. Maley also discussed some of the new advances in the recognition and treatment of mental retardation.

Some games of bingo furnished recreation for the group. Charles Maley, Kathryn Frisby

April 1963

April 27, 1963

The Avoca Betterment Club met on Sat. night, April 27 at the Loderia Hall. 44 family members and 14 guests were present. Some members gave their projects for the year. The projects ranged from painting to loafing and catching catfish. The minutes of the March meeting were read and a treasurers report given.

Charles Maley had received a request for a donation to the J.F.C. program. Arlene Link moved that we donate \$20. The motion was duly seconded and carried.

The 1962-63 Hall rent was mentioned. Vernon Stephens moved that we pay the rent when we can. Cecil seconded his motion. It carried.

Correspondence included notes from Ida Gold and Aldine Carter.

A door prize for the children was won by Judy Aupperle.

The next meeting will be a family picnic on or about June 9 and will probably be afternoon and an evening potluck. The committee are the John Gold, Rayce Carter and the Leslie Mice families.

Following the business meeting, the group did some dancing. Joe Reis and Lorraine Wink played. Bob Link and his record player rounded out the evening. Bill Freed and Elmer Aupperle did the calling.

Chas. Maley
Cathryn Frisby

Treasurers Report.
Bal on Hand. Apr. 27, 1963

\$ 51.76

Receipts -
Dues

12.00

Ida Gould
Lynn Wessels
Vernon Stephens
Bob Link
Bill Freed
Bert Janssen

Dance -
"

\$ 16.00
1

\$ 80.76

Expenditures

W. F. E. donation

20.00

Bill Fugate to Denmark

Cards

3.00

~~Dues~~ Hall Rent.

40.00

63.00

Bal. May 1, 1963

17.76

Receipts

3.00

Expenditures
Cards

3.96

Bal. \$ 16.80

Summer Months of 1963

Summer 1963

Since the April meeting members of the A.B.C. Club have participated in a picnic, a work day and a tour.

During June a picnic was held at Marsh Park in Fairbury. 47 were present to enjoy a picnic supper and games. The planning committee included the John Koold, the Rayce Carter and the Leslie Mies families.

In September men members of our organization spent the day in the woods with Howard Fugate. At noon the distaff side of the group provided dinner at Epidemia Hall. It was Howard's birthday and he heard strains of "Happy Birthday" and shared Elizabeth's Angel food cake. Present for dinner were Howard's father and Uncle Joe Karber, who were Taped out by Una Schmidt. 24 were present this day.

In the afternoon Mary Anne and some of the ladies took ice cream and cake to the men.

A couple of weeks later 34 members of A.B.C.'s joined some 2000 other interested other spectators at an open house held at the Durgut Women's prison. The day was hot, the waiting lines moved slowly, and a pair of our ladies were held to be recounted. It was an interesting afternoon and

November 1963

November 23, 1963.

Forty-six members of the Avoca Betterment Club were assembled on November 23, 1963 to hear Bill Fugate tell of his trip to Denmark and to see his most interesting color slides.

Bill began by asking the group to stand for a few minutes of silent meditation at that time when President Kennedy was dead and when his family and our country were foremost in our thoughts.

Bill showed us and told us about the Daves themselves, their homes and homelife, the farming operations, and their schools and churches. We now all know more about Denmark and are happy to have Bill back among us.

The minutes of the April meeting, the June picnic, the work day, and the September tour were read.

The Treasury stands at \$16.80 with no outstanding bills.

The correspondence included a card from Warren Ernst saying they'd be moving to Norma where they've purchased a home; and a certificate of recognition for the club's contribution to the J. F. E. program.

Charles appointed the Eldon Askeu, Jim Gault, and Kenneth

December 1963

December 21, 1963

The annual Avoca Betterment Club Christmas program was held on December 21, 1963.

The committee for this program and refreshments were the Eldon Asken, Jim Gould, and Kenneth Bressner families.

Following the short business meeting and the Pledge of Allegiance, this program was presented:

Piano Solo - Carol Mies

Songs by Dr. H. Kirts

Diane Bressner

Susie Frisby

Terry Ahring

Carol Mies

Cheryl Stephens

Recitation - Randy Fred

Clarinet Solo - Ann Mies

Recitation - Dale Maley

Solo - Kevin Bressner

Recitation about Reindeers by

Willie Ralph Fred

Group Singing.

Committees

January 25th

Lester Perkins

Howard Fugate

Warren Ufers

Vernon Stephens

Burdette Jussen

February 22nd

Walter Retter

Jesse Brickey

John Wagenseller

Ida Gould

C. E. Wink

January 1964

No meeting.

February 1964

February 1, 1964

Because of conflicting school activities, the Avoca Betterment Club held a postponed meeting on February 1st. The Lester Perkins, Howard Fugate, Warren Jeffers, Vernon Stephens, and Burdette Janssen families were hosts.

Cathryn Frisby was absent and Frances Ahlstrom read the minutes, roll call and treasurer's report.

John Wagenseller showed pictures of the Alaskan trip and, as he showed the pictures, told of the highlights of his trip.

The committee for February is composed of the Walter Ritter, Jesse Brickey, John Wagenseller, Ida Gould and C. E. Wiik families.

Chas. Maley, Pres.
Frances Ahlstrom,
acting sec.

Treasurer's Balance
\$21.40

February 22, 1964

Sixty-eight members and eighteen guests were present at the A.B.C. meeting on February 22, 1964.

Following the reading of the minutes, roll call, and Treasurer's report an election of officers for the year 1964-1965 was held. The new officers are:

Pres. Harvey Ahring

V. Pres. Milton Harms

Sec. Frances Ahlstrom

Turner Rogers of Fairbury representing the General Telephone Company was the guest speaker. Mr. Rogers showed a movie which gave members an insight into the history of ^{the} dial telephone system and the method of conversion. The audience received instructions in the use of their new phones and were given an opportunity to have their questions answered.

Group singing led by Elizabeth and accompanied by Lorene Wink followed Mr. Rogers.

After lunch bingo was played.

The committee in charge were the C.E. Wink, Walter Ketter, Jesse Bricker, Ida Gould and John Wagenseller families.

The March committee will be the Harvey Ahring, Milton Harms, and Cecil Ahlstrom families.
Chas. Moley, Pres. Cathryn, Sec.

Avoca Betterment Club 1964-1965

Member	Mch.	Apr.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	June/Prize
Cecil Ahlstrom			2 ^{pl.}	2		A	2
4- Eldon Askeu	3 ^{Pl}	2	2	4		2	2
Glenn Bressner	6 ^{Pl}	4				A	
Kenneth Bressner	3 ^{Pl}	3				A	
is Jesse Brickey					Cancelled!		
William Freed	5 ^{Pl}	4		4		3	
William Frisby	5 ^{Pl}	5		5		5	5
Royce Carter	3					A	
James Gaald	4 ^{Pl}					2	
John Gaald	3 ^{Pl}	2			Because of weather,	A	
Ida Gaald				1 ^{pl}		A	
Howard Fugate		1 ^{Pl}	1	2		A	
e Milton Harms	2 ^{Pl}	2	2	2		A	
Robert Link (Paper City)						A	
Charles Maley						A	
ht Ernest Mies	5 ^{Pl}					A	
e Leslie Mies	4 ^{Pl}	2		2		A	
Lester Perkins	2 ^{Pl}					A	
d Walter Rether	3 ^{Pl}	3				A	
v Vernon Stephens	3 ^{Pl}	3	3	4		2	3
Warren Welfers				4		A	
Cloyd Wilson		3 ^{Pl}		2		dropped	
C. E. Wink	2 ^{Pl}	2		3		2	
th John Wagonseller	1 ^{Pl}	1	1	1		A	
le Lynn Weesele						A	
Burdette Janssen	6 ^{Pl}	6				A	
Harvey Ahring	3 ^{Pl}	3	3	3		2	3
						2	2 ^{Mr. & Mrs. Hanley} _{Guests}
Pat'l Bank	7						
Paul Wilson	1						
Guests	4					2	3 ^{Mr. & Mrs. Hanley} _{Mr. Householder}
Total	75	43	14	39		20	17

Officers Meeting

The old and new officers of the Avoca Betterment Club met at McDonald's Cafe on March 4, 1964 to plan the year's proceedings.

It was decided that there would be six monthly meetings - the first one in November and the last one in April. These meetings will be held on the 3rd Saturday of the month. There will be three special meetings during the year: a picnic, a tour, and a work day. Names for the committees for these meetings were drawn. They are:

March - National Bank of Fairbury.

April - Janssen, Asken, Bressner, Bressner

Picnic - Fugate John Gould, Frisby, Link

Tour - Maley, Les Mies, Wagenseller, Perkins

Nov. - The officers: Ahring, Ahlstrom, Harms

Dec. - Wilson, Freed, E. Mies, Ulfers.

Jan. - Stephens, Carter, Wink, Retter

Feb. - Jim Gould, Ida Gould, ^{Miss} ~~Wagenseller~~ ^{Wagenseller} ~~Brickley~~

The club officers nominated Mrs. Ahring for reporter. Since the club owes the township for 6 months hall rental, it was decided that the members will have a chance to pay this year's - and last year's for some - dues during roll call at the first meeting.

Harvey Ahring, Pres.

Fraunce Ahlstrom, Sec.

Treasury.

Received of former treasurer

\$21.40

Paid amt for cards

2.24

Remainder on hand

\$19.16

March 1964

March 28, 1964

The Avoca Betterment Club members were pleasantly entertained at a smorgasbord type 6:30 supper on March 28, 1964 at the Lodermia Hall. The National Bank of Fairbury hosted the evening meal. Present representing the bank were John and Helen Kerbers, Hartzell Mung, and Bob and Verda Maurer. Paul Wilson spent the evening with us, too.

The business meeting was called to order by Harvey Ahring. The roll call was answered by giving the number of your family present and by paying your dues.

Also, members were asked to give their project intentions for this year. As a result of this reports - it would seem that members might be enjoying tomato soup in Berniece Bressner's newly floored kitchen if it's too rainy to eat on Lorene Harms new patio. Probably, John Gould, who'll be forced to pull weeds by hand in his cornfield, and Harvey Ahring who'll find 2 miles of fence a lack. Breaker won't care where the soup is served - they'll be ready to be seated. Also, it can be expected that if Lester Perkins raises 200 bushel corn, he'll furnish the crackers to accompany Jim's soup - (tomato that is). Wouldn't it be nice if Bill Freed and C. E. Wink would share the fish they'll be serving on the screened porch on the cabin along the Vermillion River. To add the final touch - John Wagenseller could bring flowers, started in Pearl's cold frames, to pretty up the table.

The minutes were read and approved.

April 1964

April 18, 1964

The Avoca Betterment Club met on April 18, 1964 with Harvey Ahring presiding. Following the pledge of allegiance the minutes of the March 28th meeting were read and approved. The balance in the treasury was \$29.16.

It was announced that Clara Mies had undergone surgery in the Methodist Hospital in Peoria. Her room number was 642.

Bill Frisby made some comments on taxation and suggested that the club might take as a project tax enlightenment. Similar studies are being made in adjoining areas.

Harvey Ahring reported that Warren Ulfers does not care to use the work day but will be glad if the club will help another member should some unforeseen circumstance arise.

The next meeting will be a picnic in Howard's woods - a suggested date was Sunday, May 17. Howard thought the timber flowers might be in the height of their glory.

Watt Nakamaru's movies of the Ice Capades were shown by Howard. Then Kenneth Bressner, John Gould, Howard Frigate, Bill Frisby and John Wageneller presented a group of slides that they had taken and each one commented as his slides were shown.

The youngsters have grown and the adults are all maturing (not aging). Via slides we traveled from Upper Michigan with Kenny - south to Arthur, Ill. with John Wageneller and even farther

November 1964

November 21 - 1964

Fourteen members of the Ovoca Betterment Club were present when the November meeting, held in the Loderia Hall, was called to order by the president, Harvey Ahring. The officers of the club were the evening's hosts.

The pledge of allegiance was given to the flag, followed by the roll call. Several of those present, who had not done so previously, designated their project intentions for the year.

The minutes of the April meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was also presented and approved.

Harvey Ahring showed pictures taken by him this summer when five car loads of Methodist youths and their chaperones motored to New York City and attended the World's Fair. It was an interesting trip.

Everyone enjoyed visiting while they ate sandwiches, fruit, do-nuts, and drank hot chocolate and coffee.

The December Committee will be the Lloyd Nelson, Wm. Freed, Ernest Mies, and Warren Nifers families.

Harvey Ahring, Pres.

Francis Ahlstrom, Sec.

Treas.

Balance on hand Nov. 21 \$ 30.16

Dues collected

Howard Fugate - back dues \$ 2.00

Cecil Ahlstrom \$ 2.00

Balance

\$ 34.16

December 1964

December, 1964.

The pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States, led by Cheryl Stephens, opened the Christmas meeting of the Avoca Betterment Club. Thirty seven members and two guests were accounted for during the roll call. The minutes of the last meeting were read and the Club's financial status was disclosed.

The President welcomed the two guests and reported that Lester Perkins was in the Brokaw Hospital, Normal. The Club voted to send Lester a "Get Well" card.

President Ahring suggested to the Club members that it would be a good idea to earn some money. After mentioning a pancake and sausage supper, or a chile and oyster stew, the matter was set aside to be considered at the next meeting. The business meeting was adjourned so that all could enjoy the following program.

Group singing of Christmas Carols,
led by Mrs. Eldon Asken, with
Mrs. C. E. Wink at the piano.

Poem - Cheryl Stephens

Story - Terry Ahring

Poem - Randy Freed

Piano Solo - Barbara Frisby

Piano Solo (Christmas Carols) - Pamela Frisby

Clarinet Solo - Ann Wicks

Chalk Talk - Kathy Sue Frisby with

MUSIC by Mrs. Wink.

Poem - Dennice Freed.
Refreshments of cookies, fruit, coffee,
hot chocolate were served by the committee
composed of the Lloyd Wilsons, the
Bill Freed, the Warren Wlfers, and the

February 1965

Feb. 20, 1965

The Anoka Betterment Club met on Saturday ^{night} Feb. 20 with Marney Ahlberg presiding. Following the Pledge of Allegiance the minutes of the Dec. meeting were read and approved. Due to bad weather there was no meeting held in January.

The Treasurer's report was also presented and approved.

It was brought up to send John Wagenseller a get well card from the Club.

It was brought to the President's attention prior to the meeting that due to such small attendance that the H.B.C. Club cancel all meetings. ^{Everyone dissuaded} Vernon Stephens made it a motion H.B.C. Club Ceased to exist. Bill Freed seconded the motion.

Then it was brought up to have an annual picnic once through the year. Motion was made and seconded by the group to have a picnic June 27 the 4th Sunday in June. Bud Wink was made General Chairman of this picnic and Vernon Stephens to help out. Motion carried.

The secretary is to mail notices to all members.

Cathryn Frisby made a motion to leave the money that is in the Treasure to the local Future Farmers 4-H Club. After paying the hall rent. Anna Mae Ahlberg seconded the motion.

Meeting was adjourned and turned over to Vernon Stephens who in turn introduced Heale Haukey who was our speaker for the evening. He gave a very interesting

June 1965

June 1965-

A picnic for the A. B. C's was held June 27 at Bud Thinks' cabin on the Vermillion River. Five families and 3 guests enjoyed a sumptuous noon meal and then reclined in the shade to enjoy the little breeze the hot afternoon gave us. Some of the grown ups joined the children with fishing poles along the bank of the river, and some good sized fish were taken from the hooks.

Thus the A. B. C. Organization was brought to a close.

Harvey Ehring Pres.
Francis Ahlstrom Sec.